IneGuardia

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Ruaridh Nicoll on our new neighbours

Jack Nicholson talks to Derek Malcolm

CnLine **Neville Brody** edesigns the Web

Advisers accused of putting election win in jeopardy with macho image

Short flays Blair's 'dark men'

the controver-sial shadow Cabinet minister, last night accused her tory at the general election and threatening its existence.

She accused them — the "people in the dark" — of try-

ing to portray Tony Blair as an unprincipled "macho man" instead of the "fresh, principled and decent" per-son who took over from the late John Smith.

"If we don't win it will be the end of Labour as a party of power at least for a genera-tion, if not for ever," she said in a highly critical interview with the New Statesman.
"I think the obsession with

the media and the focus we want power at any price and that we don't stand for anything. And the people who think Tony has got to look very strong are making him less attractive than he is. This is a very stupid thing to do."

Ms Short, who was demoted in Mr Blair's shadow cabinet reshuffle last month, said: "I know they are doing it be-cause they think it is the way to win, but I think they're making the wrong judgment and they endanger our

Her attack - which could lend in these hypersensitive In an extraordinary pas-times to her being dropped sage. Ms Short describes

from her new post as shadow | Tony Blair as two people — minister for overseas develop- one an authentic likeable figment — comes a day after a Guardian poll showed the Labour lead abbing away.

Although she names no names, her comments are clearly aimed at Mr Blair's inner advisers including Peter Mandelson and Alastair Campbell, who have been accused of briefing against her to journalists.
The creation of "focus

give their opinion to the party has been one of Mr Mandel-son's key strategies.

In a swipe at their activities she says: "I sometimes call them the people who live in the dark. Everything they do

is in hiding." She adds: "These people are She adds: "These people are making a terrible error. They think that Labour is unelect-able, so they want to get something else elected, even though really it is still the Labour Party. This is a dan-centur game, which accuracy

people are stupid.
"My life opportunities were brought to me by Labour and what they are now doing is allowing the Tory propaganda version of Labour to be reality. They are saying Vote for Tony Blair's New Labour. We all agree the old one was appalling and you all know that most of the people in Labour are really the old ones, but we've got some who are nothing to do with that, vote for us.' "One, that is a lie. And two,

it's dangerous. I think they are profoundly wrong." In an extraordinary pas

ure, the other a Frankenstein creation of the "people in the

"Tony and I had a get together last night. I had a talk with nice Tony Blair. I really like that one. I think that's the real one." Of the other Tony Blair, the macho comes out in the dark."

She also expresses alarm at the way the shadow cabinet conducts business in private, stabbing her in the back.

"Twe had this experience of some people who are meant to be on my side, one of whom I be on my sine, one of whom i thought was a really good friend of mine being dishon-est and trying to hurt and damage me. It's very upset-ting because if you don't ex-pect it, it's shocking."

She says shadow cabinet meetings that to pring out the

eye contact. It's all very boysy. If anyone makes a silly joke, everyone laughs."

Ms Short's outburst at the spin doctors reflects the pri-vate views of other shadow

cabinet members, some of whom are unhappy at the way Mr Blair's advisers ap-pear to be calling the shots. Others have told the Guardian privately they feel isolated and are angry that some key decisions appear to be announced to the newspapers rather than the shadow



tigh priests of spin, page 8 Clare Short, who says Tony Blair's advisers are making the Labour Party look as if it does not stand for anything

Short shrift

'If we don't win, it will be the end of Labour as a party of power at least for a generation, If not for ever

'I think the obsession with the media and the focus groups is making us look as if we want power at any price'

'Blair came along as a fresh, young, principled and decent man and some people are trying to turn him into macho man, not seeming decent and principled'

Tony and I had a get-together. I had a talk with nice Tony Blair. I really like that one. I think that's the real one.' Of the other Tony Blair, the macho figure: 'I think he comes out in the dark!

"I've had this experience of people who are meant to be on my side, one of whom I thought was a really good friend, being dishonest and trying to hurt and damage me.

Town walls shut to stop marchers | 'Maybe we're all

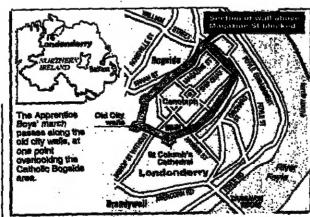
Mayhew public order move angers defiant Apprentice Boys

David Sharrock Ireland Correspondent

ENSION was rising across Northern Ireland last night as Unionists reacted furiously to a lightning security force operation to seal off a section of Londonderry's historic walls in response to the Northern freiand Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew's decision to re-route the Protestant Apprentice Boys' parade this weekend.
Scores of troops and police,

with lorries carrying breez blocks, razor wire and scaf-folding, moved into the quarter-mile section of Londonderry's walls overlooking the nationalist Bogside district. It was there that the Troubles erupted in 1969 over a similar dispute involving an Appren-tice floys' parade in the mainly Catholic city.

As the security operation got under way, Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Northern Ireland Secretary, was explain-ing why he was using his 1987 Public Order powers to ban all parades from the walls



until the end of August, whereas responsibility for a

whereas responsibility for a controversial Orange parade at Drumcree last month was left to the RUC chief constable. Sir Hugh Annasley.

Sir Patrick said the decision was taken to help the RUC to presarve public order and protect the community. "There was real and serious anxiety if this order was not made. I have made it reluctantly but if there is agreement before Saturday, the order will be rescinded. This prohibition has been made in the light of the chief constathe light of the chief consta-ble's advice that it is likely undue demands will otherwise be made on police and

Sir Hugh denied that Sir Patrick's effective U-turn had anything to do with the disastrous outcome of events at

Drumcree.

"The situation is entirely different; there is no issue of carrying cans. The Secretary of State has wider powers, he can deal with the resources. I would have had to have some would have had to have some thing like 200 officers on a 24-hour basis covering that wall. "By using undue demand" on the security forces within his powers we're able to avoid that. That seems to me a pragmatic approach to a situation.

which could get very serious indeed," he said. The Democratic Unionist spokesman for Londonderry. Gregory Campbell, was out-raged by the decision: "If people expect us simply meek-ly to accept that, to lie down and walk away, then I'm afraid that's not going to

happen."
Chris McGimpsey, a senior
Ulster Unionist and Apprentice Boy, said: "Unionist people are saying to them-selves: The very core of our cultural and political identity is being denied us'.
"We're dealing with an at-

tempt to undermine the British ethos in Northern Ireland."
But John Hume, leader of the Social and Democratic Labour Party, said he would continue to seekagreement

between the two sides before Saturday's parade. He has chaired four meetings between the Apprentice Boys and Bogside residents, but the talks broke down on Tuesday over nationalist de-mands that any agreement had to apply to marches throughout Northern Ireland and not just in Londonderry.

Mr Hume said: "I regret very much that we didn't reach agreement. Any decisions of this nature obviously cause tension and I hope, there that we will have a gen

given that we still have a gap between now and Saturday.

that we still can reach

Martians, now'

Martin Walker In Washington

scientific caution, a panel of American scientists formally declared their belief yesterday that they had found "evidence of past life on Mars", and immediately invited colleagues around the world

to prove them wrong.
President Bill Clinton simultaneously announced "a space summit" in which the next steps of the United States space programme and Mars exploration would

be debated by politicians.
The US scientists' conclusions are based on two and a half years of research on meteorite, found in 1984 in Antarctica, which they believe was catapulted off Mars 16 million years ago. Research teams at Manchester University and the Open University at Milton Keynes are also studying

fragments of the rock. By coincidence, two Nasa probes are about to leave for Mars in the launch window that comes every two years, when Earth and the red planet are aligned. The Mars Global Surveyor, to Welcome to Mars, G2



will map the planet. In De-cember, the Mars Pathfind-er will be launched as part of the Mars Environmental Survey and will take photographs and conduct chemi-cal tests.

For one of the most profound moments in history, this first real evidence that We may not be alone in the Turn to page 3, column 1

Leader comment, page 8;

Finance **World News** Stewart will open Takeover fever Russia's battered armed forces were with Atherton and returned to the England are likely

from separatists.

to omit irani and Salisbury for the Headingley Test against Pakistan.

Comment and Letters 8 Obituaries 10 Radjo, TV and Weather 16

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Inside

A Tony-dominated committee of MPs brushed aside ministers' attempts to defuse rows over paying for long-term care of the elderly.

forced into bloody airest fighting to try to win back the Chechen capital

electricity industry with reports that a US company would bid \$2 billion for East Midlands Electricity

Main points

face elderly care crisis

D Britain does not

C Long-term care

perceived as unfair

Government plans

☐ Private insurance

NHS payment of

nursing element of nursing home fees

should be considered

Ministers wrong to

funding is widely

for partnership

market must be

reject national

'For the

too poor

to afford

them. We

would be

suggestion

that they are

the answer to

the problems

of long-term

care funding'

The victiming Decision and

Missio suly asserted y

partnership

schemes, or

too lacking in

assets to need

worried by any

eligibility criteria

for NHS services

foreseeable

future, many people will be

regulated .

insurance not the

Sketch

of red and white



James Meek

T HAD been a week of bad omens for Russia's commu-nists: not only had a small boy been killed in eastern Siberia by a toppling statue of Lenin, but Prayda had gone

So supporters might have tain apprehension as they held the founding congress of the Popular-Patriotic Union of Russia with their nationalist allies in central Moscow. But there was little sign of

anything untoward as the delegates' old heads bobbed over their little jotters as they the platform in the Cyrillic alphabet. Apart from the wrinkles and grey hairs, it could have been a school dic-

Sorry, no dictators here. You'll find the dictators — or disparagingly calls Boris Yeltsin's supporters — up the road in the Kremlin.

The forces which robbed Gennady Zyuganov's communist-nationalist alliance of election victory were not just dishonest media manipulators, but enemies of lussia, traitors, agents of the West. But when one speaker said they were the real heirs of the Bolsheviks, the tensions inherent in the alliance be-

Moments later one woman won wild applause when she declared that in her district – "the reddest district of all" people looked on those who had not voted communist as if re carriers of cholera.

After Mr Yeltsin's campaign to demonise the tion of the democrats — and by extension the portrayal of the 40 million people who had voted for Mr Yeltsin as gullible fools - had a soothing small, anonymous rented hall. Growny, page 6; Leader Flags or symbols of any kind

Whodunnit?

Who cares!

Review

Stuart Jeffries

T WASN'T either of the

baid guys. It wasn't Neil Avedon, though he was

blah. It wasn't Hoffman's

caught on video tying Jessica up in some sicke bondage

schizo missus. It wasn't Jessi-

lovingly shot in profile for so much of the last episode

(though she was clearly being

Murder One kept its disap-

pointing culprit under wraps until Chapter 21 of this 23-part

series. Avedon was sentenced two episodes before closing

time — so he was clearly inno-cent and likely to be free to be

before the final credits rolled.

And when it was revealed shortly after Avedon's sen-

tence that a convicted rapistcoke dealer/ali-round bad

guy had received a parking ticket outside Jessica's apart-

ment on the night of the murder, it was clear that Stephen

set up for something). No. It

was Roberto Portalegre. He

did it. As if we cared.

ca's sister, whose breasts were

Murder One

ere strangely absent. Even the congress voting cards had been blanched from red to

prooding figure of the author Stanislav Govoryukhin began to speak Admired for his searing portrait of Russia's spiritual decay, We Cannot Live Like This, he is not a communist but supported Mr Zyuganov during the

After a few minutes, some o the dutiful note-takers slowed down. They looked at what they had written and frowned Mr Govoryukhin had found another enemy and the enemy seemed to be, well, people like them. "Orthodox commu-

nists," he was calling them. What was all this about milions of Russian soldiers being thrown into Hitler's hands by Stalin during the war; what was all this about Afghani-stan; what was all this about

He seemed to be suggesting the communists had a few things to apologise for before sounded like dirty democrat

Victor Appilov, a radical communist leader in the audi-ence, began growling and

egate, a solid individual with Leonid Brezhnev eyebrows and wearing a red badge, mustered himself to beckle Mr Govoryukhin. But what was the worst insul he could fling at a fellow Popular-Patriot, if a democra was the devil incarnate? Individualist!" he shouted

It fell to Mr Zyuganov, warmly received and later elected leader of the new movement, to smooth over the discord by the tried and stodey speech filled with esoteric statistics — such as the number of extra Russians who would have been born if there had been no wars or crises during the twentieth

century. But Mr Zyuganov did not criticise Mr Govoryukhin, and the rhythm of the dutiful note-takers had already been broken, perhaps, by the voice of dissent individualists!

Ministers' failure to produce costings on looking after elderly 'like asking taxpayer to sign blank cheque'

Graying shades MPs damn care proposals

TTEMPTS by min controversy over erm care of elderly people were yesterday humil atingly brushed aside by a Conservative-dominated com-

mittee of MPs.
The Commons health select ment's proposals for partner ship schemes, whereby the state would match any private insurance cover for longterm care, would be "at best a useful part" of a broader that required further

bout ministers' presentation aunched with a fanfare in a green paper in May, the committee said: "We deprecate the Government's failure to provide even rough-and-ready ostines of its various on tions. Until such costings are provided, the taxpayer is in effect being invited to sign a

The proposals are designed to enable people to avoid having to sell their homes to pay for long-term care by offering for purchase of private insur £40,000 insurance cover would get up to £60,000 protec tion on top of the £16,060 maxlmum available now. The committee says in

report that while such schemes may benefit some people, it is impossible to refusal to provide costings ven when asked by the com-

mittee to do so. "For the fores many people will either be too poor to be able to afford such chemes, or too lacking in assets to need them," the report states. "We would be worried by any suggestion that partnership schemes are 'the enswer' to the problems of ong-term care funding."
The MPs are even more

damning of the Government's other main idea, that people should be allowed to opt for a smaller initial occupational pension on retirement in which would be used to fund

any long-term care. The report says the idea does not offer a convincing solution to the problem of fully funding long-term care, at any rate for other than a minority of rich people". It calls for pensions to be kept separate from any mecha-Although the committee ac-

knowledges a widespread per-ception that arrangements for long-term care funding are unfair — not least because people do not see their home as an asset in the same sense as savings — it says that reports of a crists in paying for such care are unsound or

"downright alarmist".
Britain does not face as



Looking for security in old age . . . but the select committee was unimpressed by government solutions PHOTOGRAPH: DAVID SILLINGS

steep an increase in numbers of elderly people as do many other countries. Moreover, the projected increase over the next 25 years in numbers rise between 1971 and 1994.

While there are problems in meeting care costs, the report says, such problems are more manageable than many recent commentators have suggested" and it may be "both possible and afford-able" to continue with the system as it exists

if change is considered, however, one option backed by the committee would be development of flexible equity-release

schemes enabling people to use the value of their homes to pay health minister, welcomed its for care while keeping them call for a rethink of governuntil they die.

In a statement on the report, Stephen Dorrell, Health Secretary, made no comment on the criticisms of the green paper proposals. However, the minister indicated that the Governmen would accept a call by the committee for long-term care insurance to be regulated under the Financial Services Act 1986. He said a consulta-

appear in the autumn.
The committee's report received a mixed reaction

ment proposals, saying: "The Tories have cynically whipped up fears about a 'demographic timebomb' to jus tify their plans to pass the the state to the individual."

Mervyn Kohler, Help the
Aged's head of public affairs,

ting that agenda." Long-term Care: Future Provision and Funding; HMSO; £11.50

said: "We need a clear agenda so that people can plan for the

future. This report is not set-

10.7%

Thumb holds clue to 'missing Picasso' sketch

throwing away that old picture in the attic until it's been checked by Hugh Scully was given a new lease of life yesterday when it emerged that a

ing a thumbprint at the bot-tom of the picture. A finger-print expert with Cambridgeshire police has offered to help solve the mystery. The picture turned up when a Brighton antique dealer bought the contents of a flat in Ealing, west London, belonging to a Polish woman who

spect the ink and gonzche.
"When I saw it I got the very strong impression that it could be a Picasso," said Mr Harris. "It's strikingly cers in the Tate." The sketch, according to thenticity of the picture. Mr Harris, shows Picasso During the Nazi occupation



Detail from the sketch sald to bear similarities to Guernica

pregnant and his then wife. Olga, is depicted as a bullfighter. The sketch also bears

best-known picture, Guercontains the same iconog-raphy, the same imagery, all the same themes," said Mr Harris.

Close inspection revealed the artist's signature and the date May 12,

"I've had threatening letters from Claude Picasso,

ternet appeal and offered to Mr Leadbetter said of the

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going to deal one from the bot-

It's the cheapest thing a thriller can do: introduce a character with fresh legs in the final furlong, and watch the favourites fade away. But, then, who did it was not

that important. This simulacrum of justice had become much less diverting than the soap opera towards the end. More interesting than the legal procedural was the spec-tacle of Richard Cross, dying of Aids but pumped up with

drugs to give crucial testi-mony before he croaked. More interesting, too, was the late disclosure of a video tape of the murder — Cross, when he found he was HIV-positive, cultivated a safe-sex passion for watching Jessica having sex with other men and so in-

stalled a VCR in her bedroom It was a wonder that the e es wasn't written for the screen by Michael Crichton. such was Murder One's passe marriage of video technology and voyeurism.

Hoffman's wife, too, could have come from a Crichton novel, given that she had one ess dimension than any plausible woman. In early instalments, her role was to present Ted with a well-earned glass of red when he returned from work. Then she mutated into Ms Feisty, with a ball-buster of a divorce lawyer who was going to make Hoffman cry for

mercy before she got through with his stock portfolio. By the end, with Hoffman exonerated and justice served California-style, his wife had reverted to type. She was then for him. In a caring, non-directional, asexual, I'll-make-dinner-while-you-have-a-well earned-Martini kind of way. anyone uses the words "character development" about Mrs Hoffman, feel free to laugh long and hard into their faces. It isn't over, though. Portalegre may be awaiting the

chair in San Quentin. But his offer to Hoffman is still on the table: \$20 million to represent him at appeal. "And what makes you think I'll take it?" Hoffman snarled. Why, the se-

quel, you putz! After all, who could resist Murder Two: The Nightmare

Action marks move beyond 'single issue' campaigning

ESTERDAY'S support for Tube workers is an example of how action campaigners are moving beyond single issues, *uruus Alex Bello*s. Under the umbrella Critical Mass, cyclists have been taking part in demonstrations in

more than 30 towns and cities in Britain since 1994. Yester-

day was the first time Critical Mass has mobilised support

for another cause.

This cross-fertilisation can be seen across the protest movement. The landscape is overlapping 'disorganisations".

The campaign against the Newbury bypass, entering its second phase this week, is in contact with Corporate Watch. a new organisation based in Oxford that advises on how to campaign against large

drawing found in a flat in Ealing might be a missing work by Picasso. Authentication of the

work may rest on identify-

claimed to be the illegiti-mate daughter of Picasso. The dealer called in art his-torian Mark Harris to insimilar to the Three Dan-

similarities to Picasso's nica, painted in 1937. "It

the painter's son, who controls the Picasso market,"
said Mr Harris. "None of
the dealers wants to go
against him." There is one document that could decide the au-

flanked by his wife and of France, Picasso filled in his mistress. His mistress is an application for a work an application for a work permit which included both thumbprints. The original is held in an archive in

"We're very keen to get it." said Mr Harris, "but we've only got a photocopy. It's just a case of fighting Frustrated, Mr Harris

issued an appeal on the In-ternet entitled Picasso's Unknown Masterpiece. Martin Leadbetter, a fingerprint expert who helped to authenticate a Turner painting last year and now works for Cambridgeshire police, heard about the In-

picture: "It's pretty awful. I wouldn't even give £25 for Unless

The Pleine-Fougeres youth hostel where Caroline Dickinson was killed, with the coach which brought the party from Launceston College still parked outside

Murder hunt in disarray holiday and his deputy, quiry after DNA tests. But Grégoire Cholot, was "out all they refused to confirm this day" according to the only yesterday.

French police release suspect

Alex Duval Smith

IE inquiry into the rape and murder of 13-year-old Caroline Dickinson at a youth hostel in Brittany appeared to have descended into chaos and rumour after French police last night released their prime suspect less than three weeks after his arrest.

As a vagrant, Patrice Pade, walked free from a jail in southern Brittany yesterday it emerged that police investigating Caroline's death on July 18 had failed to follow up several leads, including an indecent assault in the area just tw , days earlier.

death of the eenager, who was in a party f 39 pupils and five adults from Launceston College, was particularly mysterious because she was apparently raped and suffocated while four of her friends slept in the

As police and the investigat-

investigation, it emerged that in the last two years Pleine-Fougeres and the surrounding area had been the scene of another sex murder.

Local gendarmes, sidelined in the inquiry, confirmed that two days before Caroline's murder, a 28-year-old German woman was indecently assaulted in a nearby village. On the eve of the British girl's death, a woman in another village, Couesnon, fought off an attacker whom she described as blond and wear-ing a flak jacket.

Local people speculated that Caroline's killer was the

same man who, on July 22, raped and murdered an 11year-old French girl in nearby Redon. Others contin-ued to believe in Mr Padé's

Like Mr Padé, the man arrested and placed under for-mal investigation for the Redon killing had a record of previous sex offences and confessed. Unlike Mr Padé— whose semen, it was revealed on Tuesday, did not match ing magistrate continued to that found on Caroline - the stay silent, insisting that Mr results of the DNA tests car-rede, aged 30, remained under



Suspect Patrice Padé, released as a result of DNA test

René Blanchard, Mr Pade's

lawyer, yesterday criticised the factics police used to ex-tract his client's confession.

They held him in isolation lying he may have had for 45 hours before he con-"I can easily imagine Mr Pads weakening, or talking a lot of rubbish which could be taken

to be a confession. Despite the possibility of a rapist and killer remaining on the loose in the holiday area, there were no signs of increased security at the Pleine Fougères youth hostel. Caroline's killer is believed

year-old have not yet been to have entered the locked released. a ground floor window between midnight and 3am.

member of staff, a kitcher

The size of the rooms on either side of that in which

Caroline's body was found make it difficult to imagine

how the teenager could have been raped and murdered

covered the entire floor space

between two metal-framed

Police would not comment

on the possibility that she may have been attacked dur-

ing a visit to the lavatory just

down the hallway from her

room, or that she went out-

side to see the man or men

On Tuesday police had said

the accompanying two male

teachers from Launceston

college, the coach driver and five boys in the group had

been eliminated from the in-

who later killed her.

while her friends slept. Caroline had slept on a mattress which could have

supervisor.

had never been convinced of Mr Pade's guilt.

"It was all too easy," said an elderly farmer. A waitress

at the Olympique cafe said: "I had stopped worrying. I had

told myself it was him [Mr Padé]. Now it's back to stay-

ing indoors."

The police inspector leading

the inquiry at Rennes, René Commère, refused to answer

questions, pointing to orders from the investigating magis-trate in St Malo, Gérard Zaug.

Mr Zaug was yesterday

refusing to take calls accord-

ing to a classic French for

mula, the "serret d'Instruc-tion", which allows

magistrates complete secrecy

A police source said: The

secrecy in this case is to do

with the fact that the victim is

foreign. The murder is almos

Yesterday, while the door of Room 4 where her body was found remained boarded over and the window-shutters ed, it was possible to wander freely in the building. The guests, 32 teenagers from a town near Cologne, could come and go as they pleased. One said: "The front and back doors are supposed to be locked at lipm, but we have

Louis Thébault, had gone on

been able to go out until midnight." The hostel's manager,

Bank call for 3 7 rate rise dents Tories

Richard Thomas Economics Correspondent

ORY hopes of stokingup the economy be-fore the next general election suffered a setback yesterday when the rise in interest rates to keep the lid on inflation.

In its sharpest warning to date, the Bank said a failure by the Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, to act quickly could mean more drastic rate increases later.

Chief economist Mervyn King, unveiling the Bank's latest quarterly Inflation Report, called for a pre-emptive strike against the risk of higher inflation. The ques-tion on the table now is when not if — monetary policy has to be tightened. And there is certainly a case to be made for increasing rates sooner rather than later."
The Bank's gloomy message

came the day after news that a reviving economy — com-bined with the lowest mortgage rates for 30 years — had helped to trim Labour's opinion poll lead over the Conservatives to 12 points, against 21 points in the spring.

21 points in the spring.
With the scope for tax cuts limited by the poor state of the public finances. Mr Clarke is under growing politically stated in the public finances. ical pressure to use cheaper money to fuel a short-term burst of consumer confidence. But the Bank urged Mr Clarke to resist the tempta-tion to lower rates again, adding that "nothing has happened ... to change our mind" since the Bank opyesterday.
Some of the village's 1,500 inhabitants argued that they posed June's quarter-point

cut to 5.75 per cent. It warned that the Government was likely to miss its 2.5 per cent target for underlying inflation two years' hence unless interest rates rise now.

Treasury ministers put on a brave face, stressing commit-ment to low inflation. Michael Jack, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, said: "The Chancellor has always made it very clear that having got down to low levels of infla-tion, he is not going to give up that prize easily.
"He has made it very clear

that maintaining low infla-tion is the guiding light of his interest rate policy. And he has never been fearful of changing interest rates if he has to ... I don't think there is any disagreement between the Governor and Chancellor."

But most City analysts said the Bank had successfully reduced Mr Clarke's room for manoeuvre and Opposition parties seized on the report to attack Mr Clarke's handling

Liberal Democrat treasury spokesman Malcolm Bruce said: 'Today's report con-firms that the Chancellor is now putting the political in-Party before the long term economic interests of the 37.

Brown said: "If interest rates are to be kept down the Govbalance between consump-tion and investment in the economy and the investment gap with our competitors both of which have derailed previous recoveries and threaten to derail this one."

Wise words

May 14: Bank of England: "March's base rate cut can be justi Insurance policy against a downturn in the economy. There is a case for continuing to pay the premium for a short period. But it is not easy see a case for increasing the premium."

February 14: Bank edmits it gave the wrong advice over January's cut, but denied that this gave Chancellor Kenneth Clarke the go sheed for

January 17: Bank governor Eddie George says he would prefer not to cut interest rates. He is "inclined to wait".

mber 13: Eddie George warns Mr Clarke that a cut "would not be

without its dangers". December 13: base rates cut from 6.75% to 6.5%

The victims: Britons murdered in France

1977 The Brodericks, shot on Marseilles train. near St Tropez, Unsolved Unsolved

1978 Robert Hicks, stabbed in Cateloup les Vignes. Unsolved

1978 Carol Reeves, battered in St Tropez. Unsolved

1978 The Mosses, shot in Cannes Unsolved

1978 John Calmann, stabbed while hiking in Normandy.

1980 Michael Dins, strangled

1983 John Grahamm, suspicious drowning in Seine.

1983 Niall Campbell, suspicious drowning off Brest Unsolved

1984 Samantha Ward, killed picking flowers in Angers Unsolved

986 Kenneth Marston, shot by terrorists in Lyon. Unsolved

1986 Paul Bellion and Lor | Chorlton, strangled in forest. Unsolved raine Glasby, bound and shot in Brittany. Unsolved

1992 Malcoim Olson, siran-gled in Paris hotel. Unsolved 1989 Fiona Jones, stabbed in Compiegne. Frederic Blancke sentence

1998 Anthony Howe, found dead on Paris building site. 1990 Alison Dutton, stabbed 7 times in Cherbourg. 1993 James Tolley, drugged and dumped in river. Two women charged.

ally assaulted, strangled and 1994 Patricia Green, shot in home near Cannes.

The Fragrance Hit



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'Who's to say we're not all Martians, that life started there' chunk of rock, sliced | University, who devised the | But this latest discovery

Unsolved

continued from page ! universe was a curiously low-key event, as scientists gave detailed accounts of nolecular chemistry and laser-induced ion maps.

"We conclude that, taken together, this is evidence for early life on Mars," said David McKay, of the Johnson Space Centre, "We have an emfirming evidence, We no confirming evidence. We don't have the chemistry. We don't know if they have cell walls or not. We have lines of evidence — none of them conclusive."

Scientists came to Washington from US universities and government and pri-vate laboratories for the announcement.
At the beart of it all squatted a potato-sized Richard Zare of Stanford

cleanly on one side where the scientists had taken their samples. At least 3.5 billion years old, it had been hewn from the surface of Mars by a meteorite strike, then tumbled through space for 16 million years before finally landing in Antarctica about

16,000 years ago. The rock was found just

in time for the latest in mass spectrometers and electron microscopes to dis-cern fossils of bacteria. For cern fossils of bacteria. For the scientists, it was a moment of wonder. "Who is to say that we are not all Martians, that Mars was where life first started?" said Professor Richard Zare of Stanford

Dr McKay said "Wherwhere we look on Earth
where we find chemicals
and we find water, we find
it'e. Why wouldn't it have evolved also in other places in the solar system? We are

1990 Joanna Parrish, sexu-

dumped in Yomne river.

just beginning to detect planets around other stars. so why wouldn't life have evolved there too?" The historic press conference took place in the lec-ture room of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. Already this year, the Nasa chamber had seen evidence that man can now peer to the farthest reaches of the universe, and that planets had been seen circling other stars.

seen circling other stars.

prosaic terms.
"We believe that the same ples of magnetite we have found were produced by bacteria, based on their distinc tive shape, on their chemistry, and on their environment," said Dr

Kathy Thomas-Keprta, of Lockheed. Yesterday's panel included a sceptic. Professor Bill Schopf of UCLA, who insisted "extraordinary disoveries require extra nary proof, and I think more

work needs to be done".

President Clinton said: "It is another vindication of America's space progamme. The implications are as far reaching and as awe-inspir ing as can be imagined."

"He raised some very difficult issues which face specialists in foetal medicine. Doctors like myself and Phil are daily tortured by them. Where is technology leading us? What is the responsibility of doctors? What is the responsibility of society?"

Professor Kypnianos Nicolaides on his friend Phillip Bennett

CE page 4

WESSAINTAURENT

Scratchcard spending defended

CLAIMS of excessive spending on National Lottery scratch-cards were dismissed yesterday by Peter Davis, the director general of the National Lottery. About £18 million a week is spent on scratchards, according to the latest research commis-sioned by the Office of the National Lottery (Oflot).

Peter Davis, director general of the National Lottery, said:
"The information we have does not suggest a problem with excessive participation. Most players buy around three scratchcards per week... They represent no more than an opportunity to buy a little entertainment with some loose change." Fifteen per cent of the adult population bought scratchcards each week, compared with a peak of 20 per cent last summer. — Andrew Culf

Two die in factory fire

TWO men were killed when an explosion and fire destroyed the Scottish Adhesives factory in the Possil district of Glasgow yesterday. Staff battled to save John Burke, aged 38, and James Brown, 35, both from Glasgow, who were trapped in the two-storey building, but they were beaten back by flames.

Firefighters wearing breathing apparatus took more than four hours to control the blaze, which broke out shortly before 10am.

More than 200 people were evacuated from buildings around the factory because of the risk from toxic fumes.

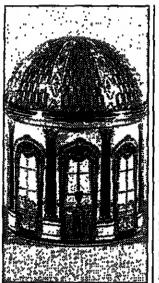
The two victims were trapped behind a door by heat and smoke One fireman said the door was blocked off and had to be broken down to get to them. Health and Safety officials and fire officers have begun an investigation. — John Artidge

Spending cuts 'delay police'

THE chief constable of South Yorkshire acknowledged yesterday that long police delays in attending incidents were no longer unusual because of the corrosive effect of financial cuts. Richard Wells said forces throughout the country were "feeling over-run" and support staff and frontline officers shared a sense of despair

Presenting his annual report to the Home Secretary, Michael Howard, Mr Wells said new revenue funding had allowed him to recruit more officers, but capital budget cuts would make supporting the new staff very difficult. — Martin Wainwright

Palace reopens to public



THE most prestigious souvenir shop in London, with palace attached, opens to the public again today. For the fourth year Buckingham Palace throws open its doors to anyone with £8.50 and the stamina for a long queue in Green Park. More than 1.2 million

people have visited the palace since the first summer opening in 1993. Up to 3,000 admitted until September 30, and this year visitors will be able to buy tickets up to five

days in advance. The souvenir shop has been a huge success. This year its collection ranges from a £2 bar of chocolate to an ename box (left) which plays an extract from Mozart's Marriage of Figaro and costs £495. - Maev Kennedy

Holiday hotels 'death traps'

TOUR operators are sending holidaymakers to foreign hotels that are potential death traps, the Consumers' Association claimed yesterday. Only one hotel of 39 inspected in popular holiday resorts was judged to be satisfactory overall, according to the CA's Holiday Which? magazine.

Serious safety flaws were found in swimming pools, fire pre-cautions, children's play areas, lifts and balconies in Turkey and Gran Canaria, two favourite destinations for Britons, said the

Several hotels failed their own country's safety standards destroying the UK tour operators' argument that hotels they use pass local standards.

"Our experts were dismayed by the haphazard attitude to safety. There is no excuse for this abysmal record, "said Patricis Yates, editor of Holiday Which?, which carried out the survey in

Keith Betton, of the Association of British Travel Agents, said: "We are surprised to see these results, bearing in mind the fact that tour operators spend millions of pounds in safety inspec-tions. These allegations will be fully investigated. If the claims are true, the problems will be rectified."

Embarrassment for duchess

THE Duchess of York faced fresh embarrassment last night as a former close friend signed a book deal to tell of her relationship with John Bryan, Allan Starkie, Bryan's former business partner, has sold the manuscript of Fergie: Her Secret Life to the publishers of Andrew Morton's Diana: Her True Story. Publisher Michael O'Mara told PA News: "Allan Starkle's book

is an explosive account of every element of the relationship between the duchess and John Bryan.

"I was shocked when I read it. I don't think it embarrasses the royal family, but I would say it will cause the duchess some concern." The duchess, who was preparing for her daughter Beatrice's eighth birthday party today, would not comment.

Mr O'Mara said: "The book is not yet finished, but it is extraordinarily frank and shocking. Dr Starkie's documentation is impressive and backs up his story to the fullest extent. I expect his book to be a worldwide bestseller."

Manchester faces huge bomb blast deficit

Peter Hetherington and David Ward

ANCHESTER is facing a multi-mil-lion-pound shortfall over the costs of the IRA explosion which devastated the heart of the city eight weeks ago.

As the repair and rebuilding bill edges towards £1 billion, it is clear that the Government will have to find a new funding mechanism to deal with the consequences of the worst bombing of a Brit-

ish city since the war.

The council's Labour leadership are preparing for hard bargaining with ministers in the autumn when the full scale of the rebuilding will be

Richard Leese, council leader, said: "We are not interested in playing political games. We have a bombed out city centre; they have the money." Architects are to be chosen from a government. funded international competition, itself costed at several million pounds. While the council is looking

for help to meet short-term extra costs put at "between three and four million pounds" — mainly on high-way repairs and additional building control safety work — extra government aid running into tens of millions will be necessary.

The £20 million European

aid offered by the Deputy Prime Minister, Michael Heseltine, is regarded as a small first instalment, although an equal amount will have to come from either business the council or government agencies before the cash is

Julian Hulse, chief execu-tive of Manchester's chamber of trade and industry supports Mr Leese's pragmatic approach, based in part on success in attracting partner-ship funding for such projects as the Metrolink tram system, a 19,000-seat arena and a new concert hall. "If we were to say to the Government right say to the Government right now that we need another 2:100 million, it would be empty gesturing. We don't want to do that," said Mr

small traders are more critical Steve Ellison, vice-chairman of the tenants' association at the Corn Exchange whose columns moved four inches in the bomb blast, said that £3.2 million of a £3.4 million package announced by John Major during a visit to Manchester last week was lottery money already promised to the Royal Exchange theatre

company.
"The Government was making political capital because
the theatre money was not
connected with the bomb," he aid. "It was not new money." Officials believe around E100 million will be needed to help rebuilding. The money is likely to be borrowed by the council, which would then ex-pect compensation from Whitehall through the annual

revenue support grant.
There is likely to be a disparity between government aid to Manchester and parts of Northern Ireland.

Under a criminal damage compensation scheme, rebuilding costs and loss of trade are met by a special compensation agency in Bel-fast which last year paid almost £60 million. Provisional estimates for this year are put

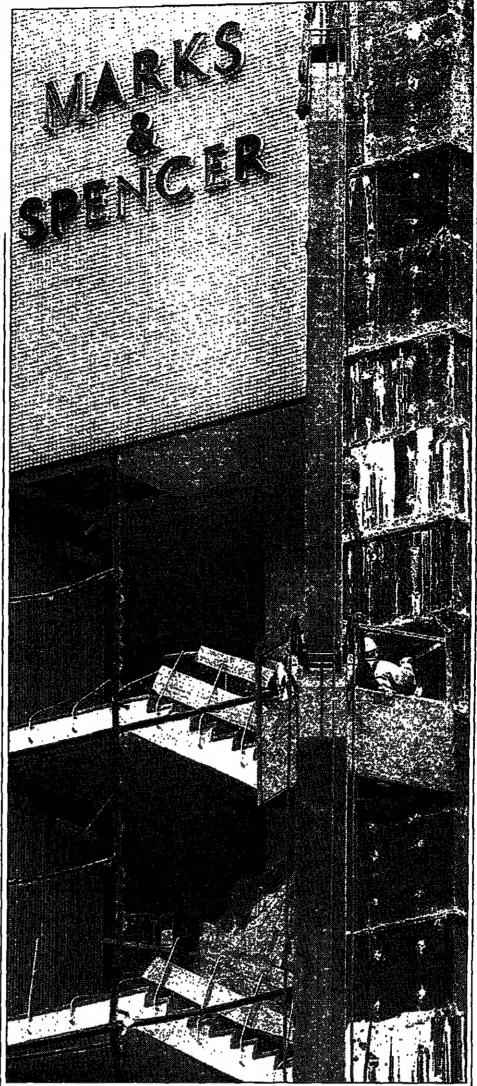
'We are not interested in playing political garnes. We have a bombed out city'

at just over £32 million. A senior council official said: Everyone knows that none of the funding regimes in Whitehall take into account a bomb going off in the middle of an English city."
While the Government

stresses that comparisons are invidious — mainly because of the difficulty in getting in- small traders in Manches ter have not taken kindly to the Government's refusal to mount a rescue package. Many are under-insured.

Mr Heseltine says the Government cannot afford to give ground on this front. Many businesses have now been relocated. Of the 674 displaced on July 1, the council now estimates that 250 have to be found new accommodation although 100 have now agreed relocation packages elsewhere in the city centre. The council hopes that most of the 150 remaining will be trading by the end of September.

city includes fewer cars, more shops and homes, and an opening up of the cityscape. But the shattered Arndale Centre, a building for which few Mancimians shed a tear will not come down, "Even if I had the choice, I would not knock it down. The problem is that it works and that lots



After the blast . . . Repair bill is now edging towards £1 billion

look rather than dappy

Vivek Chaudhary on trends in slang

VER been asked for a bit of shrapnel by a dappy anorak with a rooka who has just been for a blat? Confused? Well, you won't be for much longer, thanks to the Oxford

Dictionary.
It plans to shed a bit of light on the mysterious language of the younger gen-eration by including examples of the latest street slang in its fortbooming

edition. The list of words was compiled following a survey of 600 secondary school pupils by Dillons book-shops and Oxford

Dictionaries. It shows, among other things, that pants is creeping in as a swear word and stonking is commonly used as a substitue for excellent. Shrapnel is used to de-scribe loose change, pukka is cool and stylish, while a

rooka is a spot of pus. If you have just been for a blat, that's a short bike ride; if you want some chuddie, it means chewing gum. A dappy is a thick, sad person, while an snorak means someone who is bard working and untrendy.

Mind you, there's no chance of being called that if you've got a bif (cigarette) in your mouth and you are looking decidedly cod (great or good). Rooted means horrible looking and triphead is someone who makes no sens

Michael Profflit, from Oxford Dictionaries, said that most of the words discovered in the survey would be considered for inclusion.

"It is impossible to tell which words will last, and which will fade. But it is in the nature of fashion that what is indispensable one year may be rejected the

that there are regional variations in use of slang. Boyf, meaning boyfriend, is considered uncool in Peterborough and Lancashire but is acceptable in other parts of the country. A wass, meaning wimp, is out of fashion in Ipswich but Is still commonly used in

Woman alleging rape faces questioning by accused

Hannah Pool

WOMAN who claims she was repeatedly raped dur-ing a 16-hour ordeal by a man she met at a bus stop was cross-examined by her alleged attacker in the Old Bailey yesterday. Raistan Edwards, aged 42,

of Catford, south-east London, has pleaded not guilty to three charges of rape and one of anal rape, and has chosen to defend himself.

The court had been told

that on the night of the al-leged attack, Edwards struck up conversation with the woman when he spotted she too was wearing a red Aidsawareness ribbon. The 32-year-old mother of

two told yesterday how she avoided walking through a

deserted park at midnight be-cause she was worried Ed-wards was following her. "Because of your ap-proaches to me. I did not want to walk past a desolate area

with no street lights, no buses basically a desolate dark place which under these cir-

pace which thider these cir-cumstances would have been very frightening for a wom-an," she said.

Denying that she went to the defendant's home will-ingly, the woman said she thought there would be a bet-ter charge of attracting attenter chance of attracting attention and getting help if she went with him. When Edwards asked her a

series of questions about her daily travels, the woman replied: "I do not know what you are trying to do. Are you trying to intimidate me?" The case continues.

Ban on handguns 'could cost £1bn'

Big payout warning as shooters that shooters would be entitled to full compensation if sue police over Dunblane

Duncan Campbell Crime Correspondent

EMBERS of shooting organisations are try-ing to head off handgun legislation by warning that the cost of compensating gun owners could reach £1

They are also taking legal action against Central Scotland police for loss of earnings which they claim has resulted from the Dumblane

there is a ban. He said that that the families of the vic-tims of Dunblane and Hungerford would also question how much a child's life was worth. The pro-gun claims come in the wake of the leaking last week of the home affairs

select committee's report which showed that six Conservative committee mem-bers opposed a handgum ban. The Labour Party is pledged to introduce a ban and the Government would be likely to support a ban if recom-mended by the Cullen inquiry into the Dunblane shootings.

But last night the figure of Yesterday, Guy Savage, of the Shooters' Rights Association was attacked as "highly unrealistic" by antigun organisations who added toon had received legal advice police for negligence in not considered.

such compensation was guar-anteed under the Europen Convention on Human Rights. He estimated the cost of compensation at around £1 billion. There were 200,000 to 250,000 pistols in legal circulation, he said, and a further 300,000 to 500,000 in stock. The pistols cost around £500 each and their accessories (magazines, holsters, safes for storage etc) would almost double the figure. Added to compen-sation paid to shootingrelated businesses which, he said, employed up to 10,000

people, the total cost was "close" to 11 billion.

withdrawing the firearms licence of Thomas Hamilton, the Dunblane killer, when there were clear warning signs that he was unstable. Sales of handguns had slumped. "I haven't worked

A firearms consultant, Stuart Andrews, said that he was asked by a Labour MP to assess the cost of compensation and estimated that for private owners it could run to £450 ing ranges and gun clubs the cost £900 million.

A Home Office spokeswoman confirmed that, in evidence given by the Home Office to the Cullen inquiry, it

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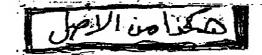




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The Guardian Thursday August 8 1996

How high priests of spin keep order

directly to politi-Mirror journalist turned son, and Bernard Ingham Guardian journalist turned press officer to Margaret Thatcher.

Both were aggressively loyal and were famous for putting down anyone who crossed them. But they were essentially public relations men, spin doctors committed to selling their leaders' personalities rather than chang-

ing party policies.
The Tories stick to the old briefing behind closed doors while Labour has opened a new lodge. For Haines then, read Peter Mandelson and Alastair Campbell now, the Butch Cassidy and the Sun-dance Kid of modern Labour

Mr Mandelson, MP for Hartiepool, political adviser and election campaign man-ager to Tony Blair, is credited with severing Labour's links with the voter-repellant poli-cies of the past. Mr Campbell, once of Robert Maxwell's Daily Mirror, is the policies ramraider aiming for the press secretary's suite at 10 Downing Street. Mr Mandelson serves it up and Mr Campbell dishes it out.

No longer do journalists have to ring round members of the shadow cabinet to find the Tory party if they want a good government line. It is brought to them on a plate.

Just stay in a cubby hole in the parliamentary press gallery and the friendly - or not so friendly — spin doctor will be round as regular as a tea trolley, press release in hand, and a plausible line at the ready. Stick to that line and there will be no problem. Follow something different and the journalist, editor, or television executive will know all about it the next day.

Access to prominent politi-cians will become that much more difficult. The person will not be - invourite lobby words — "sound" or "help-ful". No exclusive interviews for them, no leaked government documents from Labour, and, if you are a broadenst journalist, no space on that airplane with the

party leader.
It is Labour, deprived of office for 17 years, which is taking the most aggressive line with lobby journalists, combined with the creation of an instant rebuttal unit, aimed at Tory "lies" and in-side stories about Labour.

The Conservative Party, always more discreet than Labour, has long had what was known as the "White Commonwealth" of lobby journalists — the Daily Mail, Daily Express, Daily Telegraph, the Times and the Sun to place stories. In the 1987 election campaign Norman Tebbit spent hours trying to reporters frinterest the White Common-future events.

wealth in anti-Labour tales, at Conservative Central Office sessions that lasted long into the night. Charles Lewington, the

smooth ex-Sunday Express lobby journalist who heads Conservative Central Office election campaign, and Sheila Gunn, his deputy, a former Times lobby journalist and di-arist, follow the same tradition. A quiet word in the ear of a friendly journalist, a Central Office fax sent direct to George Jones, political editor of the Daily Telegraph, that is how they influence the

Peter Mandelson, first when he worked for Neil Kinnock and now as part of a deadly duo with Alastair Campbell, has rewritten Labour's rules of engagement. They extract a high entry fee from traditionally hostile

papers desperate to get an in-side track to Mr Blair, That and the rise of soundbite TV journalism, has allowed Mr Mandelson's own agenda of 'modernising Labour' to set the tone. Sceptics, whether among journalists or the shadow cabinet, are getting

Contrary to the impression given by the high priests of spin, some members of the shadow cabinet resent Mr Mandelson's jealous gatekeeping duties in the leader's office. Some find access difficult, others admit they learn of Labour U-turns by reading the newspapers.

Rightly, they believe the lobby is sometimes briefed by Mr Mandelson and Mr Campbell on policy spins before the shadow cabinet or the Parlia-mentary Labour Party. One aide to a shadow minis-

ter even asked for a list of "in-dependent lobby journalists" across a "message untainted by Mandelson spin". Nick Jones, a BBC TV jour-

nalist and author of a recent book on spin doctors, says Mr Mandelson is the first spin doctor with a policy agenda which he is pushing through successive Labour leaders. He also believes Mr Man-

delson goes further than any other party adviser in researching his lobby prey. "He actually researches his journalists so he can place the right story with them," Says Mr Jones. "He knows their strengths and weaknesses, he knows the hierarchy where averse to leaking information against them if they do not do what he wants."

Both Mr Mandelson and Mr Campbell complain relentlessly to any newspaper or TV editor if they do not like what

they read or see.

Another Campbell and
Mandelson tactic, according
to a BBC reporter, is to wait until a great gaffe is made. Then they visit the hapless editor to complain, and at-tempt to exact not only an apology but other demands like removing troublesome reporters from covering



The lobby in Parliament where politicians, spin doctors and journalists meet for 'off the record' comments and briefings

PHOTOGRAPH: GARRY WEASER

Doctoring the news: Six expert players of the game



ALASTAIR CAMPBELL: Tony

Cambridge. Wrote soft porn for Forum magazine under pen picoholic. Political editor, Daily Mirror and Today (defunct). Tempestuous relationship with Robert Maxwell. Plays bagpines. Top Spin: Bludgeoned the BBC Blair's speech on the day OJ Simpson acquitted. Standard catchphi Standard catchphrase: "What's that load of crap you wrote in today's paper?"



PETER MANDELSON: Head of general election campaign.

and Oxford, Labour grandes background, grandson of man and ex-London Weekend Machiavelli, Rasputin, Prince of Darkness, and worse. Author of thin volume, The Blair Revolution: Can Labour deliver? Top Spits: Letting it silp that he was so close to Blair that he was given a secret codename "Bobby" by the party leader so he could deliver confidential telephone advice without other colleagues knowing. Standard catchph

almost never brief journalists."



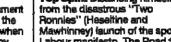
CHARLES WHELAN: Press adviser to Gordon Brown.

paying school. Communist until 1990, press officer for the old Ameigameted Engineering Union. A bit scruffy, most at den. Shed old communist image and gold earring when he joined Top Spin: Getting Ken Clarks to denounce a recent emberressing leaked document as a product of "idds from the Treasury." Backfired a bit when it was found to be written by

Standard catchphrase: "i

i am not responsible."

don't know anything about it and





CHARLES LEWINGTON: Director of information, Conservative Central Office.

and Bath university. Ex-Western Daily Press, Daily Express and Political Editor, Sunday Express. Dapper, expensive tastes in shoes, wine and food. Tory women are said to swoon when they see him. Nickname is "Lord

Top Spin: Distancing himself from the disastrous 'Two Ronnies' (Heseltine and Mawhinney) isunch of the spoof

"Could you come over here and have a quiet word."



SHEILA GUNN: Deputy head of communications, Conservative Central Office.

Rose from a newsdesk secretary on the Times to a lobby journalist and diary editor. Expensively dressed and colfiured, leapt to notoriety after three in the life of Steven Nords. the former transport minister. Cheming, disemingly tough

Top spin: Getting confidential details of immigrant cases into the public domain to boost the Government's tough asylum law Cabinet ministers' speeches to journalists. there anything I can do to help



JANE BONHAM CARTER: Head of communications, the Liberal Democrat Party.

Background: Public school and University College, London. programmes from Newsnight and Panorama to editor of Channel 4's A Weak in Politics Great grandfather was Herbert Asquith, the Liberal prima

Top spin: None yet, only promises of some to come. Standard catchphras 'I'm not Alasteir Campbell."

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A dictionary definition

Spin Doctor: A campaign official or public relations expert attached to a party or candidate whose task is to channel facts to the media which put the best possible construction on events in an effort to build momentum - from Brewer's Politics, a phrase and fable dictionary by Nicholas Comfort with a foreword by John Major

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Women fear threat to way of life

Refah's performance on the

hustings gave it more seats

June it became the senio

partner in a coalition with Tansu Ciller's centre-right

True Path party — a turning

point for a country long seen

Faced with the realities of

overnment, Refah has jetti-

soned - or shelved - several

election promises. But Its

ministers have also an-

nounced a number of populist measures which could indi-

cate that the Islamists' true

aim is to create a situation in

which they can go back to the

the Muslim world.

ISLAM ON PROBATION: In the second of a series, John Hooper in Istanbul looks at the impact of the Islamist-led government on Turkey's women and its moneymen

17th-century build-ing on the Golden Horn is among the proudest landmarks of Turkey's fledgling omen's movement. The Women's Library and

Information Centre was founded six years ago on pre-mises made available by the previous, secular city admin-istration. It now has a collection of several thousand books and a rare collection of Ottoman era. For several years, it served as a venue for conferences and exhibitions on women's subjects.

local elections and took over Istanbul's city hall. "Since then, we've had problems," says Nukhet Sirman, an anmember of the library. "They began when the cultural ad-ministrator of the municipal-ity suggested we not serve drinks before the events we

dered anybody to do anything. "It was all innuendo.
As an anthropologist, this is

tell us what to do?' But then But in 1994, the Islamist Re-fah (Welfare) party won the brary argued that we should

For Dr Sirman, the fate of formation Centre is merely a foretaste of what other sec tions of society can expect it Refah's influence spreads The Islamists are politicis your life which is at stake

Refah's policy towards women is shot through with the sort of ambiguity which makes a lot of secular Turks ear there may be a difference between the Islamists' long term aims and their short term practice. Visitors to Istanbul city hall come away surprised it has as many miniskirted secretaries as any One of the mayor's most senior aides is a woman who es in a way that makes her indistinguishable from a

Western female executive.

This might not be as diffi-

entre Motherland party took made heavy play of a woman 292 of the 450 seats in parliaone of the party's 158 MPs is a

the vote. The new Refah-led government has promised tax breaks

than any other party, and in 'I don't think Refah will continue with populist measures

> once it sees the economic realities'

fered a tax amnesty to ebtors, givên civil servants a 50 per cent salary increase and doubled the minimum

the combined effect could be to add between £5 billion and

make up the difference. On closer inspection, how-

enment's moves turn out to ous. The pay rise for governin the minimum wase inflation running at about 80 per cent. And, as many civil when they unfolded their pay slips, their improved salaries ave put them into a higher

It is clear that if Refah fails to deliver its promises, if it simply becomes another conservative party like True Path or Motherland, it risks losing its more Islamist wing. But if its plan is to go for cheap popularity, an early poll and an outright majority then there is the equally serious risk that it could pitch the

With GDP growing at an an-nualised rate of almost 10 per cent in the first quarter of

half the government's spend ing going to service its debts, it is acutely dependent on the goodwill of the markets. On at policy-makers have an incen "They have to introduce

measures which lead to structural changes in the economy," says Husnu Akhan, Bank. He cites three reforms which he acknowledges tackle its budget deficit a speeding up of privatisation, an expansion of the tax base to bring in money from Tur-key's flourishing black economy, and an overhaul of the social security system to stem

will continue with populist realities of the eco Akhan savs

It can be argued that, in the last resort, the best guarantee of Turkey's secular and demo cratic status is not economic or political expediency but armed might. Ever since Ke-mal Atsturk forged the the Ottoman empire, its soldiers have acted as the guard ians of his beritage.

Every time it has looked as if Turkey was in danger of alipping out of the West and into the East, senior officers from happening.

standing changes in recent years is that there are those who openly question whether today's generals would be ready to do the same.

Next: Human rights and

Sagree

PS OF STA

Russians are hit hard as rebels take Grozny

James Meek in Moscow

USSIA'S battered armed forces were forced into bloody street fighting yesterday to try to win back control of the Chechen capital Grozny from separatist fighters. Federal military sources

launched their latest attack on the city on Tuesday they had lost eight helicopters, 15 armoured vehicles and 50 dead, with 200 wounded. was no word on other casualties but there were fears for the safety of a number of civilians trapped in the centre by fighting. Chechen rebels claimed last

night to have full control of the city centre, and to have beaten back a Russian armoured column which tried to break through to govern-ment buildings there.

seized the city's main telephone station only 30 yards from the government building. Later a second federal column was reported to have reached the centre and to have gained control of all administrative buildings, Russia's new defence minister, General Igor Rodionov, is believed to be involved in organising the counter-attack, although it is not clear whether

he has travelled to Chechenia. Fighting has continued in other parts of the city and in separatists on Tuesday. Before dawn yesterday, rebels reached the heavily fortified airfield of Khankala just out-side the city, the headquar- that it may be connected to

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ters for federal forces in the | the president's ill-health. The region, and killed the base duration of the ceremony has ommander, Colonel Sergei Ashlanov.

Mi-24 helicopter gunships flew over Grozny, directing cannon fire and rockets into the infarno. Among the damaged buildings was a theatre just restored after last year's

Russian troops and rebels exchanged mortar and automatic weapons fire across deserted streets as residents who had returned to the city in large numbers since las year, took refuge in dank cel-lars designed to protect them against nuclear attack. Every moment spent in

the open is hazardous," said Arbi Zubairaev, a cameraman for Reuters news agency who was rapped in the city. "Snipers can sweep for hundreds of yards down Grozny's straight avenues, and shrapnel from without warning.

The fighting and the inevitable political fallout continued to cast a shadow over ration tomorrow of Russia's re-elected president, Boris Yeltsin. Ending the war in Chechenia was an election promise he claimed to have aiready carried out.

It was confirmed yesterday that the inauguration ceremony will be moved from the open-air site on the Kremlin's ancient Cathedral Square to the town of Argun, east of the modern indoor setting of Grozny, which was taken by the Kremlin Palace. The last minute change of

venue was officially pre-sented as a cost-saving mea-

duration of the ceremony has hour to 30 minutes

tion in Chechenia. But his national security adviser, General Alexander Lebed said if the rebals withdrew from Grozny they could eventually take part in a new peace forum for the region.

spilled in Grozny due to the Chechen opposition, the [Russian] security council does not intend to resolve the sharpened crisis purely by means of force, even though this is how the leaders of the illegal military formations are acting," he said.
The security council

wanted to set up a congress of representatives of all Chechen peoples to discuss ways of settling the crisis, he said. for Security and Co-operation in Europe to help organise talks between Moscow and the rebels, said yesterday that the separatist leader, Zelimk-han Yandarbiyev, and the Chechen rebel military comnander, Asian Maskh had been opposed to the attack on Grozny but had been forced to agree to it by radicals among the leaders of

the fighters. Uncertainty surrounds the identity of the leader of the latest assault. Some say it is Shamil Basayev, who led a raid into south Russia last year, while others identify the less well known com-mander, Rusian Gelayev.

Bosnian Muslim children in Memici, near Tuzla, jump through a grenade-damaged school wall yesterday before repair work

News in brief

Sprouts 'cause of poisoning'

Radish sprouts in school lunches probably caused the food poisoning outbreak that killed a girl, aged 10, and sick-ened 6,308 children in Sakai,

Within hours of the announcement, supermarkets pulled the pungent green sprouts called "kaiwars daihon" — often eaten with salad like alfalfa sprouts — off their shelves. — AP.

Yacht rescue

The American actor Tom blockbuster film Mission: Im possible, helped to rescue five people whose yacht caught fire off Capri, Italy, a port official said vesterday. - Reuter

Poll date set

India's election commission yesterday named four days next month for state assembly polls in Jammu and Kashnir, where the last elected government was sacked six years ago, writes Suzanne Goldenberg.

Pinochet injured

The former Chile dictator, General Augusto Pinochet, aged 80, was in hospital in Santiago yesterday undergo-ing tests related to a knee injury he received while exer-cising. — AP.

Bus in river

Thirty people died and others were critically injured when the bus they were travelling in feil into a river in northern Iran, Iranian television said yesterday. -- Reuter.

Landslide victims

Landslides triggered by mon-soon rains hit Jhagraku village, north-eastern Nepal, killing at least 40 people, the government said yester-

tan Traynor, Central Europe Correspondent

ORMER Yugoslavia

moved closer to a post-war settlement yesterday when the two key strong men. Presidents Slobodan Franjo Tudiman of Croatia, signalled their intention to conclude a mutual recogni-At a hurriedly-organised summit in an exclusive resort outside Athens, the two lead

ers agreed a joint statement paving the way for full diplomatic recognition at a further meeting in Belgrade within the next few weeks.

The Greek prime minister, Costas Simitis, who organised and hosted the summit near Athens with United States and western European back-ing, described the talks as a seasily trigger a return to

big step towards an overall Balkan peace, although it was not clear whether the two presidents had managed to

resolve any of their many The Greek summit capped a week of feverish local and diplomatic activity in the Balcrisis between the European Union, the Croats and the Muslims in the divided Bosnian city of Mostar, and came at a critical time for the region's uncertain peace

Under the US-brokered peace process, Bosnia faces its first post-war election next month, a poll that the international community hopes will smooth the halting progress towards a peaceful modus viparties.

crisis, confrontation and months, with road, rail and or threaten the entire rainte-cresping war. telephone links being gration process". creeping war. News of the summit was kept secret until Tuesday

Serbs and Croats agree on recognition

The two ruthless, shrewd and authoritarian presidents are widely viewed as the fore most villains in fomenting the ploodbaths that accompanied the dismemberment of the former Yugoslavia

They met regularly during the many diplomatic confer-ences that ran in tandem with the Croatian war of 1991 and then the Bosnian war of 1992-95. But yesterday's meeting was believed to have been their first purely bilateral summit since the spring of 1991, when they met secretly in northern Serbia to plot the division of Bosnia between

A creeping rapprochement between Serbia and Croatia has been under way for some

But they remain locked in territorial disputes over a stretch of the southern Adriatic coast around the Prev-laka peninsula, and over the region known as eastern Siavonia, a corridor of fertile farmland on the river Danube along the border between Serbia and Croatia.

The international commu nity recognises eastern Slavo-nia — currently under United Nations administration — as belonging to Croatia, and preparations are being made

for its return. But the UN secretary-general, Boutros Boutros-Ghali, yesterday proposed that the UN administration be ex-tended to the end of 1997, and

Yesterday's agreement paves the way for mutual rec-ognition between Croatia and rump Yugoslavia, which com-prises Serbia and the tiny

republic of Monter After years of Communist and a swingeing global trade embargo, Mr Milosevic's Ser-bia shows scant signs of recovery despite the recent relative peace. The president faces elections later this year and pundits say he wants to put the war behind him and concentrate on domestic

matters.
Mr Tudiman has most to gain from the diplomatic recognition pact, if it goes through smoothly, since it would confirm his war vicwarned that "political posturing and brinkmanship are likely to increase and impede tts pre-war borders. tory and the establishment of an independent Crostia with

French police squad to hunt illegal aliens

Paul Webster in Paris

SPECIAL police squad with the task of hunting illegal immigrants

has been set up by the French interior ministry, amid allegations that orders have been given to increase the roundup of suspect settlers by using

The interior minister. Jean-Louis Debré, an-nounced the establishment of the force, which will also investigate the employment of illegal aliens, after police raided sweatshops in Paris and the suburbs, detaining 47 workers and nine

the authorities have long of police rights to carry out turned a blind eye to the mass use of illegally imHuman rights organisasenting lumigrants and malisenting lumigrants and scheduled for next week. ported labour. More than 5,000 garments and hundreds of sewing machines were seized.

The raids are being seen as an attempt to placate ex-tremist electoral demands for tougher anti-immigration measures and to answer allegations that the employers recruiting an underground workforce.

Mr Debré recently tried to push through tough new laws to win votes from the far-right National Front. But critics in the Gaullistled government, including employers.

The raid concentrated Juppé, said there were almainly on the Sentier district of the capital where

tions are worried that the new squad could infringe rules forbidding police to question suspects only be-

cause of their skin colour or facial features. Even now the police can be observed checking only black or North African settlers in the poorer suburbs of big cities or at check-

points in Paris's larger underground stations. More than a thousand illegal immigrants are expelled each month, many of them in the 21 special charter planes ordered by Mr

Debre in the past year. Fourteen human rights organisations have accused the government of organissenting immigrants and lawyers have started legal action after the leak of a them to concentrate on ar- acts of discrimination".

ans to fill a charter plane scheduled for next week. The European Conncil's human rights commission telex sent to police in the has been asked to stop the Paris suburbs ordering "abuse of authority and

Derek Malcolm reviews the latest film releases every Thursday in

///Guardian

المكنامن الأحل

Diego convention — which will formally nominate him as Republican presidential candidate. But powerful Republican moderates, including the gover nors of New York, California, Massachusetts and New Jersey. said yesterday that their pro-choice supporters were insisting on a full-scale debate on the convention floor over the abortion issue. — Martin Walker, Washington.

Nuclear ship defies protests

A BRITISH freighter carrying more than 20 tons of nuclear waste A but its in triginer carrying more than 20 tons or nuclear wast-has entered the Caribbean Sea despite regional opposition. The 14-member Caribbean Community, a confederation of the region's English-speaking countries, said it would try to stop the ship-ment, which Greenpeace has called a "disaster waiting to

The freighter, Pacific Teal, is carrying spent nuclear fuel from In the regiment, racing the last is carrying spend nucleon that an Japanese reactors for recycling in British and France British Nuclear Fuels, the parent company of Pacific Nuclear Transport which owns the ship, says it has not had an accident in 30 years of transporting such materials by sea.

Greenpeace claims the ship will leave the Caribbean tomorrow or Saturday via the Mona Passage between the Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico, but its scheduled arrival time in Europe is

The Caribbean Community has twice succeeded in diverting nuclear shipments from the Caribbean, in 1992 and 1995, when it forced ships to head south around South America and Africa nstead of through the Panama Canal - AP, San Juan.

New HIV test gets go-ahead

AMERICANS will soon be able to find out if they have the virus that causes Aids, by taking a simple urine test. The new test, which manufacturers hope to have available within a few weeks works by detecting antibodies to the HIV virus in urine. Experts say it will appeal to those wary of needles and, unlike the blood

test, poses no risk of infection.

The Food and Drug Administration has given its approval, but the new tests will not be as accurate as those performed with blood, missing one or two HIV infections in every 100 people examined and falsely testing positive for one in every 100 people—an inaccuracy rate 10 times greater than that of blood tests. Anyone whose urine proves positive will have to take a blood test to confirm they have the Aids virus, FDA officials said. — Jonathan Freedland, Washington.

ıle

Salinas turns up in Ireland

THE elusive former Mexican president, Carlos Salinas de Gortari, has surfaced in Dublin. Mr Salinas, who left his country in financial chaos after relinguishing power in November 1994, has yet to inform the Irish authorities of his presence. Foreigners living in Ireland for more than three months must report to the police, but Mexicans do not require visas to enter the country, nor s there any extradition treaty with Mexico.

"He hasn't reported to the Gardal and we have no idea where he is living," said a justice ministry spokeswoman. "We are not aware of him being in the country at all."

Mr Salinas, whose brother Raul is in jail accused of embezzlement and murder, yesterday told the Irish Times he would return home when "convenient".—A P, Dublin.

Nerve gas 'went near allies'

GULF war bombing of Iraqi chemical weapons plants sent clouds of low-level nerve gas towards allied positions in Saudi Arabia. United States investigators have admitted. The CIA says Desert. ary 1991 blew up around three tons of the nerve agent sarin. which had been pumped into bombs for the Iraqi air force. Until now CIA projections have shown lethal clouds of chemi-

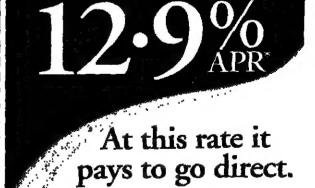
cal agents blowing 40 miles north, away from allied troops to remote areas of Iraq. But a new computer model estimates the three-mile-wide cloud actually spread 185 miles south — about 70

rolles short of the closest US troops, according to the CIA.

The latest disclosure follows increased questioning of the Pentagon's version of the post-war destruction of Iraqi chemical weapon sites. US government officials have already had to admit that the detection of sarin by Czech soldiers in northern Saudi Arabia during January 1991 was 'valid'. They have also conceded that some members of a US army unit "may" have been exposed to sarin during a clean up operation near al-Nasiryah, north-west of Basra, three months later.

Sarin can cause death by suffocation at close range — as in the Tokyo subway attacks last year. But there is disagreement over its effects as it disperses and weakens. — Newsday, Washington.

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Ultra-orthodox rabbis hold a handouff protest in Jerusalem yesterday over the arrest of colleagues who tried to stop motorists driving on the Sabbath Photograph; манооснея реснап

US agrees 'oil for food' plan to aid Iraq

Mark Tran in New York

HE United States yes terday finally accepted a United Nations plan allowing Iraq to sell oil to buy food medicine and other humani tarian supplies to ease the burden of sanctions.

Madeleine Albright, US representative at the UN, removed the last obstacle to the oil-for-food plan when she announced approval of strict procedures to prevent Sad-dam Hussein from getting

At America's insistence. the agreement puts in place

exports and food imports than initially envisaged. All other Security Council members had already approved the monitoring procedures.

The UN oil plan will mark Iraq's return to the oil market for the first time in six years. Iraqi oil is expected to flow again in September. The UN may take four or five weeks physically to put in place a comprehensive monitoring Under a memorandum of

understanding signed in May and subsequently modified at US and British insistence, Iraq agreed to a highly intra-

more monitors to oversee oil | will be allowed to roam any | ally agreed to the plan after where in the country, checking markets and clinics, to make sure that emergency supplies are reaching the neediest people.

As part of the plan, \$150 million (£96 million) of each \$1 billion in oil sales will be spent on aid to the Kurds in northern Iraq, now effectively an autonomous region under Western protection. Under UN resolution 986 adopted last year, Iraq will be allowed to sell \$2 billion worth of oil over six months on a renewable basis. Baghdad initially objected to the resolution as an infringement

realising that there was little prospect of a general lifting of sanctions.

The broader economic noose will remain in place unti Iraq has fully complied with UN resolutions demanding the scrapping of its weapons of mass destruction.

What hopes Iraq harboured for a lifting of sanctions evaporated after President Saddam's son in law and the former head of Iraq's secret nuclear weapons programme, Hussein Kamel Hasan al-Majid, defected to Jordan with damaging revelations. Irag's friends on the council, France

up on the idea of an early end to sanctions. Baghdad has been dragging

its feet with UN arms inspection teams after agreeing to the oil-for-food plan, and tempts to bar UN inspectors from Iraqi facilities.

Britain and the US have warned Iraq that it faces a council resolution deploring its intransigent behaviour should it continue to hamper UN inspectors. Such a resolu tion would make the lifting of sanctions even less likely. Ms Albright emphasised vesterday that while "the imsanctions against Baghdad would remain intact. Explaining the delay in US

to the people within Iraq," the

approval, she said it had wanted to ensure that all the procedures were appropriate, "and we will make sure they are carried out very rigorously, because the point here is to get the assistance to the right people and not in any way to abrogate the sanctions

regime". "This is not in any way a change to the sanctions regime. This is the American attempt to make sure that there is humanitarian assistance being delivered to the

Tamils despair as 'peace plan' talls victim to new war against rebels

Sri Lanka's president is turning to the gun, writes Suzanne Goldenberg in Colombo

SRI LANKAN Tamils, link between the northern who once saw President | Jaffina peninsula, seized from the Tigers last December, and tunga almost as a saviour, fear that she is falling back on a military solution to end the 13-year civil war.

Tamil Tiger guerrillas have government forces tied down just outside Kilinochchi, the last population centre under rebel control. It seems clear that both sides are suffering heavy casualties in the army's slow advance on the

gnition

The defence ministry claimed that it lost 16 soldiers on Tuesday while killing 60 guerrillas. The rebel Voice of the Tigers radio said 200 soldiers had been killed since the battle for Killinochchi began nearly two weeks ago. The scale of civilian suffer-ing is also bound to be high. The International Committee for the Red Cross said it fears

that 100,000 people have fled Kilinochchi and are living out in the open. With food and medical shipments to the medical shipments to the north blocked for nearly three weeks, fears are growing for their welfare, Gerard Peytrignet of the ICRC said yesterday.

The capture of Kilinochchi is vital if there is to be a land

the government-controlled

The confrontation follows the Tigers' attack on the Sri Lankan army last month. when the rebels overran the military camp at Mullaitivu and killed more than 1,100

troops.

Mrs Kumaratunga came to power two years ago as the only Sinhalese politician to talk of a negotiated peace. Her peace plan, which would devolve powers to regional councils, was the boldest attempt yet to satisfy the de-mands of the Tamil minority for self-government. But Tamil leaders say her

plan lacks support even among members of her ruling People's Alliance — let alone the opposition United National Party. They also fear that she is now leaning towards a military solution to a war that is projected to cost 50 billion rupees (£600 mil-



Tigers kill soldiers," said Paikiasothy Saravanamuttu, a consultant at Colombo university's centre for policy research and analysis. "The expectations were so great that I think the disappointment is commensurate.

An all-party parliamentary committee has been mulling over the constitutional reform package since January. Tamil politicians fear that when it resurfaces, it will be significantly diluted. That would discredit their own claims to serve the interests of their people better than the Tamil Tiger guerrillas, who have rejected the plan

outright.
"Bringing in the package

the package alone is not going to solve anything," said D. Siddharthan, leader of the Relam People's Democratic Party, Eelam is Tamil for

Increasingly desperate po-litical parties are beginning to distance themselves from the government's reform package and to look at other ways of trying to end the war. Douglas Devananda, leader of the Eelam People's Democratic Party, the largest of the former guerrilla groups in parliament, is urging his fel-low Tamils to forget Mrs Ku-maratunga's ambitious plan. and settle instead for a smaller portion of autonomy promised under an old aban-

doned proposal.
Yesterday, the leader of the
Tamil Belam Liberation

Organisation also turned his back on the peace plan. "Hopes initially pinned on the parliamentary select committee are evaporating slowly, giving rise to frustra-tion and despair among the Tamil people and also sen-sible sections of the Sinhalese community who are serious about finding a solution to the conflict," said N. Srikantha, the Tele leader

the Telo leader. "The chauvinism that has become an integral part of the polity of this country is adamantly opposed to the aspira-tions of the Tamil people. And the war goes on," he said.

Cape drugs war

David Berestord in Johannesburg

LARGE crowd of vigilantes brandishing revolvers, pump-action shotguns and chanting "Allahu Akbar" put on another show of force outside Cape Town yesterday, as security chiefs tried to defuse the drugs war which erupted on Sunday in South Africa's parliamentary capital.

Local politicians and police

exchanged insults as a row flared over who was to blame for the violence, in which a gang leader was shot and burned to death and 18 people injured in a shoot-out beween vigilantes and alleged drug dealers.

George Fivaz, the national police chief, was flying to the city yesterday to investigate allegations that police, who were present at Sunday's gunbattle, failed to intervene to save the murdered man.

Rashaad Staggie, who ran the Hard Living gang with his twin brother Rashid, died gruesomely in front of press cameras when he tried to drive through a heavily armed mob of vigilantes marching on his house. He survived an initial shot to the head at point-blank range, but was set ablaze with petrol as he tried to flee, and was then riddled with bullets as he died

The killing has been followed by threats of revenge and counter-revenge. Rashid Staggie declared at his r's funeral on Monday that there would be war, and the vigilantes -- who have de-clared a Jihad against gangs - have threathened to us suicide bombers if Muslim religious leaders or mosques

are attacked. Dullah Omar, the justice minister, and Leon Wessels, the provincial police chief.

held a crisis meeting on Tues-day night with local civic and religious leaders. Politicians blamed the violence on the tardiness of the judicial authorities in dealing with the gangs which flourish in Coloured residential areas

outside the city.

Frank Kahn, the Cape's attorney-general, dismissed the criticism as "cheap political opportunism", but conceded that police and government departments had failed the population.

It is believed that members of a Shi'ite extremist group.

Qibla, may have been among
the vigilantes who style themselves the "People Against Gangsterism and Drugs" (Pagad). But Farouk Jaffer, Pagad's

"chief co-ordinator", said yes-terday that the organisation was not a "militant fundamentalist or extremist organisation". He angrily objected to the characterisation of its members as vigilantes. "It is, in fact, comprised of sincere, law-abiding people who are opposed to the high level of drug trafficking and associ-ated crimes prevalent in

South African society."

Mr Jaffer said the organisation had issued an ultimatum to Mr Omar in May to take action against drug lords within 60 days. When the ultimatum expired last month, they delivered ultimatums to 16 local gang leaders, warning them to stop their activities. He claimed a delegation from Pagad — with a police escort and a crowd of "con-

cerned onlookers" — was in the process of delivering a similar ultimatum to the Staggie brothers when gang members opened fire. It was in these volatile cir-

cumstances that Rashaad Staggie had driven "arrogantly" through a police cor-don and had been attacked by

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OnLine, G2 page 10

Mars, our cosmic cousin Suddenly, we are not what we thought we were

life on Mars, albeit billions of years old, it will rank as one of the outstanding discoveries of all time, a cosmic mile-stone in mankind's perception of the universe and ultimately of himself. Suddenly, science fiction isn't science fiction anymore. The bald statistics are as daunting as they are humbling. An ancient Martian meteorite containing single-cell bacteria-like organisms, which crystallised from molten rock 4.5 billion years ago, was catapulted from
Mars after a major asteroid impact 15
million years ago, before eventually
falling onto an ice-field in Antarctica about 13,000 years ago. While billions of dollars were being spent on spacecraft to explore Mars itself, the vital clues were here on Earth on our Antarctic doorstep.

We have now turned a page in a new book, the ending of which is as yet unfathomable. As Paul Davies argues on the opposite page, Mars and the Earth may have cross-fertilised each other, and, he adds, if a fossil microbe can reach Earth from Mars, why not a live microbe as well, making it difficult to be certain whether life started on Earth or on Mars? Or maybe somewhere else. If a whole new world of speculation is opening up then maybe the meteorite from Mars originated from Earth before getting caught up in a sort of cosmic ping-pong game. Shakespeare may have been more prophetic than he realised when he wrote of "This seat of Mars" and Milton's view of the universe in Paradise Lost ("... and every Starr perhaps a world of destined

habitation") may yet be vindicated. Professor Fred Hoyle, who stoutly maintained there was life on Mars during the 1980s when Nasa insisted it was sterile, has counselled caution on the grounds that Nasa is desperate to get more funding from a cent-pinching Congress, and so may have been over-

IF NASA scientists have found traces of | enthusiastic in its interpretation of the facts. We must remind ourselves also that it is August, when all sorts of quasi-stories become actual stories to fill the news vacuum as most of the world — the Earth, that is — goes on holiday. (It would have been much more fitting to have announced it in March, the month set aside for Mars.) Nasa administrator Daniel Goldin sensibly made it clear that the discovery bore no relation to science fiction or Hollywood versions of life's beginnings in space. He said: "I want everybody to know that we are not talking about little green men. These are extremely small, single-cell structures that somewhat resemble bacteria on Earth. There is no evidence or suggestion that any higher life form ever existed on Mars. Fine, but that won't stop the world's imagination going into overdrive. The merest possibility that life may have started on Mars and been exported to Earth will set a cosmic cat among the sci-fi pigeons. Fundamentalists will scupper back to Genesis for guidance on whether extra-terreatival life poses doctrinal problems and Christians may have to pause for thought if the primeval soup from which Adam and Eve

emerged came from a Martian recipe. Suddenly, we are not what, or where, we thought we were. There is now a distinct possibility that some form of organic life may exist deep down inside the core of Mars. And, if it can happen there, why not elsewhere at the nether ends of the universe? Life may no longer be Earth's monopoly, but ubiquitous. God is no longer playing dice, but cosmic roulette. A small meteorite the size of a melon sitting unnoticed for generations has created another milestone in history. And who knows how many similar chunks of stone around the world await discovery? In the light of all this, milestones themselves will deserve special scrutiny.



But the last thing needed is a another new ideology

kinds; tomorrow's presidential inauguration may provide a clue to the most personal one - his shaky state of health. Is shifting the ceremony from outside in Cathedral Square to inside the Kremlin a cost-cutting measure or is it really a device to save Mr Yeltsin (who has not been seen in public for nearly six weeks) from more than the minimum effort? If the motive is financial, it can only be a miniscule gesture. Last month, the IMF suspended its latest loan disbursement, citing Moscow's failure to collect taxes. This week, the finance ministry reveals that the federal Russian government has collected only 63 per cent of the planned tax intake for the first half of the year. And the economics minister says that he is considering putting off some of Mr Yeltsin's extravagant campaign promises - for more social spending and support for domestic industry — in an effort to bring down the budget deficit. This is unlikely to help solve the debt cycle, which has already hit a great deal of industry particularly in the defence sector, where the government fails to pay for work done so that the factories cannot pay their debts or even their workers. Yesterday's latest headline case concerns a nuclear submarine maintenance plant in the Russian Far East, whose assets have been seized by the local water company and a bank. At least they appear to have left the actual subs alone.

BORIS YELTSIN is in trouble of all of post-election Russia is the calmness with which a grim situation is accepted on all sides. Foreign economic advisers stick to their familiar view that things must get worse before they get better. (Some claim to see signs already of an underlying improvement). Foreign governments try to pretend that Mr Yeltsin's state of health is not deeply disturbing. The mafia-ridden nature of Soviet society is taken for granted, and in some quarters even interpreted as an ugly but inescapable feature of the shift towards a fully marketised economy. Mr Yeltsin's election pledges are acknowledged to have been almost entirely phoney and yet everyone is resigned to the result. The latest bloodshed in Chechenia — where he claimed to be promoting peace — is the most blatant example. Much of the Russian electorate seems to accept the deception, though the Communist Party, now painfully reconstituting itself as the People's Patriotic Union, may offer a chance for second thoughts at the

regional elections in the autumn. None of this necessarily means that we should predict any dramatic upheavals in the near future. Societies have a remarkable capacity for survival under adverse circumstances, and Russia has become used to making the best of the worst. Mr Yeltsin has his own theory on what is needed and has appealed for suggestions on a "national idea to unite all Russians." That is really alarming: the only ideologies Perhaps the most remarkable feature around would make things even worse.

Coming to the relief of Derry

The Government had a duty to prevent Saturday's march

THE Government has acted rightly and | and their followers. No one on the day's Apprentice Boys' march in Derry. The march organisers and the residents who had opposed their plans have had many chances to reach a compromise. But they failed yet again yesterday, giving the impression that wider issues were increasingly being dragged into their discussions. The danger of a drift into possibly the most serious disorders of the year - and the appalling wider consequences that might follow - was

palpable and unacceptable. A lawful state has an overwhelming responsibility to maintain civil order in such circumstances. Laws exist -- in Britain as well as in Northern Ireland - to impose bans on marches, and the British government would have been wrong not to have acted after the breakdown of the local talks. Its lawful and necessary actions should now be supported and obeyed by march organisers

11

bravely by effectively banning Satur- nationalist side should engage in triumphalism or any other form of provocation. The security forces should enforce the ban with absolute scrupulousness. There must be no backing-down, as there was at Drumcree.

But the banning of the Apprentice Boys' march should not create a precedent. The need for this ban related specifically to these marches at this dangerous time. The North Committee is now investigating the conduct of future marches and rallies in Northern Ireland and will report early in 1997. That will be the basis on which future arguments can be settled. But that is then, and this is now. It was in the paramount interests of all the people of these islands that peace was maintained - if possible by agreement, if necessary by the civil power - in Derry this weekend. The Government has done its duty.



Letters to the Editor

When the law says life

HE injunction achieved by pro-life campaigners of ethics, August 6) asby pro-life campaigners in the case of the aborted twin raises great ethical issues for all of us. Here we seem to have a group of cam-paigners attempting to inter-iere with clinical decisionmaking. They have little, or no, knowledge of the individ-ual patient's circumstances; however, they are permitted to intervene in what would ap-near to be a perfectly sound. pear to be a perfectly sound and legal procedure, both psy-chological as well as physical. What, therefore, is there now to stop an interested

group, or even individual, being granted the same power of clinical decision-making in other areas? What is there to stop, for example, a person with a mental illness being discharged from hospital, even though sound and thor-ough clinical-management processes have been applied and comprehensive aftercare

One would not doubt the commitment of such groups or ldeals — both are commendable. But the precedent is a dangerous one and is to be regretted. Helping individual patients and their families is difficult enough without hav-ing to deal with external polit-ical and, now, judicial

Brian Rogers. Professional Officer, Comunity Psychiatric Nurses Association Cals Meyn, Grove Lane, Hinton, Chippenham Wilts SN14 8HF.

Wrong number

WHERE Oftel got it wrong (New upheaval for

phones, August 6) was in not using Phone Day 1995, when

virtually every number in Britain had to change in any

case, to design a system that would genuinely take care of foreseeable requirements. The

present system apparently allows up to three billion num-

bers. Surely, that is more than enough. The problem is that

the extra numbers are not in the right places. There are lots

of free numbers going begging in the Outer Hebrides, for ex-

ample, while London remains starved of them.

I suspect that, once again, Oftel will choose to patch a

long-outmoded system rather than redesign the way num-bers are allocated, and growth

areas like the large cities will continue to be plagued by number-starvation while

remoter areas have a surfeit. Laurie S Keller.

Snr Lecturer in Computing,

Milton Keynes MK7 6AA.

The Open University.

Walton Hall,

sumes that a woman in socially straitened circumstances is entitled to ask for an abortion. This is very far from the truth. The Abortion Act 1967 requires the woman to establish grounds for an abortion, ie that going to full term would damage the mother's health or that there is a likelihood of giving birth to a handicapped child. The law does not permit ter-

mination for "social" reasons. Thus poverty, inability to cope with children, disruption to carear or education are not lawful grounds for abortion.

Yet, because of the laxity of medical practitioners, social abortion is widespread. As a result of this case, there will be a much stricter interpretation of the law, and the prac-tice will virtually disappear. Matthew Ashbee. 44 Whitehall Road,

Bromley, Kent BR2 9QS.

into the effect on twins of the loss of their twin. I was horrified to hear of the so-called solution for this single mother. Surely the twins could be fostered, kept together and brought up in the knowledge that their mother wanted them, but was unable to care for them? Alternatively, one could be adopted and this too be made known to them both so that they could meet up

THE current telephone numbering system allows for 10 billion different lines in

the UK, ignoring the superflu-

ous leading zero. This allows

for something like 150 lines

per man, woman and child.

which ought to cope.
With current digital tech-

nology, there is no fundamen-

tal reason why a person liv-ing in a given geographical area should have a specific

area code — but maybe BT billing technology is less ad-vanced than digital-call

Joan Woodward 61 Selly Wick Drive, Birmingham B29 7JQ. As someone who is a twin, disabled and who works as a child-protection traine and consultant for disabled children, I find the idea of aborting one twin morally repugnant.
It is scandalous that whilst

some people are clamouring to-say that mothers who use drugs, drink excessively or to harm babies in utero are cruelly mistreating that child (and therefore the child in utero should be deemed to be at risk and fall under the auspices of child-protection services), other people draft laws which allow doctors to inject poisonous substances directly

into the developing child, de-liberately designed to kill.

A further point: why is it that we allow disabled children to be destroyed before birth, simply on the grounds of disability, and no one pro-tests? So-called "healthy" bables deserve this outcry, but there is silence on the dis-abled baby.

5 Albion Works, Sigdon Road, London E8 1AP.

HILE all the angles of ex-ploitation, whether by Spuc, doctors or the press, in the tragic twins/abortion story seem equally unsalu-brious, there may be one positive glimmer: the emergence of the new sport, tricking the tabloid press. Britain should excel if only through sheer wealth of opportunity. Marcia Heinemann. 7 Springfield Avenue

London N10 3SU.

I SUPPOSE IF WE REALLY
WANT A TELEPHONE
INSTALLED WE COULD
ALWAYS RE-LOCATE TO
THE OUTER
HEBRIDES
ALL
A

AST year we were fold that

0272 was hopelessly outdated and was to be replaced by the

five-digit code 01179. Today we are told that the five-digit code

01.232 for Belfast is obsolete and is to be replaced by a four-digit code 0292. What is the point of all this nonsensical

tinkering? And why can't we have our abbreviated local

codes back, so that Bath sub

scribers can return to dialling

just 92 for a call to Bristol? Mike Godwin.

18 Longfellow Avenue, Bath

We may edit letters. We regret

we cannot acknowledge those not used.

Bristol's four-digit code

It could be you — but only if you live in London

ORD Gowrie's attempt to rowed and needs to be repaid justify the wholly disproby future Birmingham counportionate amount of Lottery money awarded to London venues and elitist arts forms (Let the bids roll in, August 6) could be dismissed as out of touch were it not for the fact that, as chair of the Lottery Arts Board, he is the most sig-nificant voice in the distribu-

tion of its funds. The widespread criticism of the allocation of Lottery funds has caused simply a change in presentational style to try and make it more acceptable. The most common trick is to boast about the number of grants given across the country without placing a monetary value on them. Thus, a Covent Garden award of £78 million is equated with a £5,000 award

to a bell-ringing society. Another trick is to deduct "national" schemes from an area's grants on the basis that these are for the benefit of the whole country. It is, of course, purely coincidents! that only

Yet another ploy that Lord Gowrie has now apparently lecided is useful is to comment on the amount of publicly-funded investment prior to the Lottery; he quotes the Birmingham Symphony Hall aware of this?
as an example. The difference is that the public money involved in the Birmingham Bingley.
Symphony Hall was all borWest Yorks BD16 4LU.

cil-taxpayers, whereas Lottery funds are a grant and do not give rise to financial liabilities.

V CHATT

What Lord Gowrie is effectively saying is that those local authorities, such as Birmingham, which recognised the need to invest in the arts and did so at considerable cost, are to be penalised by being denied Lottery grants. It is even more galling that their efforts should be called in evidence to support the gross inequities of the current pattern of Lottery distribution.

Roger Burton Director of Finance, Birmingham City Council. Box 50, Birmingham B3 3AB.

ISUPPOSE a lifetime spent refining Tory arguments in favour of inequality makes Lord Gowrie believe that his special pleading for London's nassive share of Lottery funding is persuasive. In the 0121050 country Gowrie and his chums have helped to create, there are still many people who cannot afford to travel to London to enjoy its cultural wealth, or even live in civilised surroundings. Is he

Boyson R. must try harder

SIR Rhodes Boyson attacks | questions are not the same the modular A-level sys-tem by saying that the results | stress of sitting other module are "not worth the paper they are written on" (Exam chiefs attack limit on number of Alevel re-sits, August 6). But education is not about a test

of memory.
In the A-level biology syllabus that I teach, it is far more important that my students understand the fundamental principles behind the biohemical pathways in the cell than that they know, and can repeat, them parrot fashion. Education is about learning

by experience and embraces a number of skills, including memory. Would Sir Rhodes like a limit on the number of person may be considered for senior positions in the Government?

To keep re-sitting examinations year after year would be excessive, but there would be very few, if any, students pre-pared to do this. Re-sitting exminations is not easier, the | Surrey KT1 2LS.

examinations at the same time. Re-sitting allows students to learn from experience and acquire the skills needed to succeed in a

It is the easiest thing in the world to set an examination that no one can pass. I would have thought that Sir Rhodes's years as a head-teacher would have told him that examinations are not there to penalise what a candidate does not know but to reward what the candiate does know, and, more crucially, understand.

Teachers and students are driving tests a person can in a no-win situation with pol-take, or the number of times a ticians. If results improve iticians. If results improve then examinations must be easier, if results do not improve then teachers are "poor" and students "lazy".

James D Williams. 3 Ravens Court,

23 Uxbridge Road, Kingston-upon-Thames,

Captain Bligh faces his mutiny

routine?

Andy Smith.

60 St Albans Road,

Surrey KT2 5HH.

Kingston-upon-Thames.

has to ensure that the licence-fee payer does not unfairly subsidise other services, by which I presume he means the World Service.

I always assumed that part of my fee went to pay for the World Service, and, as a regular listener to it in this country, think that to be entirely proper. Please do not, Mr Smith, presume to speak for the wider public without asking. That's how the BBC has got into this mess in the Melvyn Ellis. 50 Crest Court.

Hereford HR4 9QD. NOTED with interest John Smith's attempt to justify the changes proposed for the World Service by referring to

OHN Smith, the BBC's tion sits rather uneasily be-Deputy Finance Director (Letters, August 6), says he has to ensure that the licence-little changes to the BBC's little changes to the BBC's little changes to the BBC's perfectly good logo. This must be another example of Birt-speak whereby the BBC's senior managers toady up to their Captain Bligh of a boss in a conspiracy to ignore the wishes of the people who pay their inflated salaries — the licence-payers.

Desmond Mason Malvern. 49 Stanwell Road, Penarth CF64 2LR

OULD it be too much to organise a rally so that we ordinary members of the public can demonstrate our support for the World Service, and our dismay at the recent decisions, which will the changes proposed for the wind surely bring about the down-fall of this great institution? Helen Johnson. 91 Wickham Road, to overheads". This contentions which will surely bring about the downfall of this great institution? Helen Johnson. 91 Wickham Road, London SE4 1NH.

Lilley's old line

AVING had a career in DSS which lasted over 10 years, I was, from 1985-1986, manager of one of the department's freephone information lines. I had a team of dedi-cated staff who answered calls, often discovering that people had struggled for years without claiming benefits to which they were entitled. These staff, unlike those in local offices, were trained in all benefits, so they were able to advise people about claim. ing on both contributory and non-contributory schemes.

The freephone staff also received calls from people wanting to shop their neighbours and, being public servants, they duly passed the information on to the relevant local offices. Thus, a facility for anonymous accusations of fraud existed before the incep-tion of the "fraudline". Karen Postle. Titchfield.

A Country Diary

THE BURREN, IRELAND: | headed caning thisties, hare-Our French visitors and Mary Ann decided to scale the heights of Mullaghmore. while I kept to the lowlands to fulfil my wish of walking round the turlough (or disap-pearing lake) at its foot. We had seen from a distance waterlilies on the turlough these I wished to see up close. Because of dry weather the water had almost disappeared, leaving but a few pools, so I set off with high hopes and a stout stick to test the ground ahead lest I sink All seemed easy at first but I soon discovered beneath my feet a veritable constellation of wild flowers and plants. My efforts to avoid treading on them resulted in a walk like that of a drunken sailor, made worse by myriads of disturbed butterflies, moths and leaping frogs. What a paradise — shrubby cinquefoil, late-mountain avens, orchids, deep pink pyramidal, O'Kelly's white, fragrant, purple/pink wild-thyme patches, yellow ladies' bedstraw, maid-

enhair fern, gold Aztec-

bells. However, as I got nearer to my target,I realised I could not get close - rushes grew well over my head and the whole lily-bearing pool was circled by a deep moat. On I trudged, now through shrubby cinquefoil (potentilla fructicosa), now over rocks where hazel grew and spread horizontally. I stopped to examine a hazelnut - pale green, its tip suffused with deep pink. Then I noticed a very small pool; floating on its surface were four waterlilies and, hovering above them, dragon and damsel flies. I also saw two hovering matchstick-like (but thinner opeque blue, seemingly wing-less insects. Annoyingly, none of my reference books help me to identify them. I scrambled back in the perfumed air in a cloud of butterflies matching the darting swallows overhead so that I did not know whether I was dreaming I was a butterfly or a butterfly dreaming I was human.

ly ...

SARAH POYNTZ

Diary

Matthew Norman

AM intrigued by a line in Alan Watkins's Independent ou Sunday column. "Mr Nicholas Soames used to find her highly attractive." writes Mr Watkins of Clare Short, "and would speak of her admiringly on the Terrace." Although one ex-girlfriend described coitus with him as "like having a wardrobe fall on you. with the key sticking out", we recall Alan Clark's diary entry about the Armed Forces minister having a potent aphrodisiac. Perhaps Fatty's not quite the waste of space he would appear? Perhaps, who knows, Miss Short returns his feelings? Fatty's in gastro-nomic-paradise Normandy this week, on what his office claims is "Armed Forces business", and Miss Short's office resolutely fails to return phone calls. But the Diary's matchmaking plans are not dead; merely on ice.

AD news for the Government: David Griffiths, a former member of the Twickenham Conservative Association has decided to stand against sitting Tory MP Toby Jessel. Mr Griffiths was expelled last year, reports the Fortean Times, after making a speech to an audience of two, arguing that all criminals should be killed; all homosexuals should commit suicide; and all those claiming social-security benefit should gun each other down in the street. Mr Griffiths, now standing under the Antichrist banner, says he has known himself to be the Antichrist for a long time, but has felt that going public might damage his political career.

AM close to sacking my

youth-culture correspon dent, John Redwood. The Britpop expert has gonon holiday to a place described by his office as somewhere foreign" without leaving a contact number. This means we have no way of learning his opinion of the incident at the Oasis concert in which Noel Gallagher addressed Chris Evans (who, unlike Mr Redwood, was in the audience) as "gingerbollocks". It's all very well writing articles about the Lightning Seeds, but what Mr Redwood bas to learn is that at the cutting edge of Fleet Street, you simply can't go gallivanting off "somewhere foreign" without letting the desk know how to get in touch. This is his final warning.

ESPITE his recurrent Heinz chairman Tony O'Reilly won a much-needed pay rise last year. His salary went from £1.3 million in 1994 to a more realistic £41.3 million. largely thanks to stock options. Mr O'Rellly's media interests include a hefty stake in the Independent titles, peither of which is a notable fan of fat-cat salaries: the Independent on Sunday has been a flerce critic of share options, arguing that they do not lead to wealth creation for anyone but the recipient something borne out by Heinz's disappointing profits in recent years.

THER city news concerns Terry Major-Ball: Allders, owners of his beloved Allders of Croydon, is spending £23 million buying shops from rival Owen Owen. "Oh dear," he says gravely. "it's only a year since they had another floor put on. I hope they're not overstretching themselves." This apart. Terry is buoyant. "I'm looking forward to lunch tomorrow," he says. "This will be our third." No. I say, the second. "No," says Terry, "there have been two before." There has, I insist. been just the one. Terry concedes. "You're right, the other lunch was with Marie. A very nice young lady. I must be confusing her with you." Upon this baffling note, we say adieu.

ROM the University of Washington comes advice that may prove vital should we suffer a cold winter. Dr Amanda Adler reports that, while leaving chool in a temperature of minus 35 degrees, an Alaskan boy stopped to lick a handrail and was instantly frozen to it by tongue and lip. When his father found no other way to free him, he simply urinated into his son's mouth. It sounds easy, but try explaining that one to Cleveland social



Red blood under Major's bed

Commentary

Hugo Young

N the kingdom of red-blooded men, he who hesi-tates can only be a wimp. That's the trouble with the Government's line on Europe and the single currency. The best songs belong to the enemy within. Michael Portillo was born red-blooded. Michael Howard has acquired the substance, Peter Lilley's wall of the substance. pallid cheeks tell a lie. Theirs is the easy message, temporarily suppressed at source, but spoken for by all the loudest voices in the Tory Party. Get out of the single currency now, they say, even before we control Clarity amaginary spoor. get in Clarity, swagger, sover-eignty: such badges are be-coming irresistible to a party

that faces electoral disaster. The Government line, by contrast, makes a virtue of chronic indecision. It's Meschronic innecision. It's Mes-sina all over again. Poised be-tween unpalatables, ministers struggle to keep the choice open. But it's also different from Messina, which hap-pened 40 years ago, in that this time we have no bargain-ing-position. Nobody wants us

all that hadly, as all of Kurope wanted us in the Common Market. The price of swaggering will be one-sided. That's what the official line is desper-ately aware of But keeping things open is not a heroic posture. With the election coming, and both main parties apparently procrastinating, it looks downright indefensible. Actually, the line isn't as di-

ute as the red-bloods say it is. Both Mr Major and Mr Blair ere prepared to accept a single terrency. This is a big posi-tion. They don't talk about it much, but that's the platform they start from. While both leaders bedge it round with all kinds of qualifications, neither says the prospect of eco-nomic and monetary union is grotesque. Hesitation, however, is the

operating mode. The Tories' basic text is the concordat of April 3, when Major annormord the deal whereby Kenneth Clarke was persuaded to accept an EMU ref-erendum. Clarke, Malcolm Rifkind and Brian Mawhinney held a press conference, based on this text, which says "we will be keeping our option open at the next election". It also notes that at the election "no-one will know for certain whether a single currency may go ahead at all in the next Parliament". Nothing, in other words, could be closed off: not merely at this moment, but in the next five years. This was the formula

that kept Clarke, and possibly ernment. Every word was carefully crafted. It is the statute of survival. Yet it is what the red-bloods or their proxies still hope to take apart, slice by slice.

Part of the case for pre

ing it is substance: the facts of

the matter. No one does know for sure when, or even whether, RMU will happen. The date is supposed to be January 1, 1999, but the omens are uncertain. That date would require preliminary decisions by, at latest, spring 1998. But Germany and France face difficulty cutting their deficits. Whether 1997, the decisive year for target-meeting, will do the job is an open question, as is the willingness of the German polity to accept a loosening of the terms if it doesn't. On the whole, best bets are positive. But the timing could slip. The red-blood attitude, which says that indeciston cannot be defended at an election taking place mere months before a decision must be made, is not axiomatic. Keeping-it-open, as per the concordat, may need to last quite a lot longer.

This leads to the other pe of the case, which is more familiar. Swaggering off the field now is a way of withdrawing not just from the game but from influencing its rules. It excludes the possibility of re-entry being desirable later, on terms other than those available to supplicants without a | Britain will anyway not want bareaining hand to play. Be | to join in 1999, and because a bargaining hand to play. Be-hind the thinnest temporising disguise, it forecloses the future in a way that may appeal to red-blooded romancers but, in so doing, rides over every complexity of tatesmanship. . Partial foreclosure is al-

مكذا من الاعل

ready provided for. Nothing could happen fast anyway, even under the concordat. One guarantee is the referendum: a risky venture, courting political disaster, hard therefore to mobilise, harder still to win. The referendum should be assurance enough for all but the kind of sceptic who doesn't believe the public

know what is good for them. In any case, there's another hurdle. The Government can't just abandon the EMU opt-out. One of the little sceptic sweettricht Bill obliges it to pass a law explicitly to that effect: more chance to keep the Com-mons churning. These are for-

Why not say that Britain, in place of five years of saying maybe, can promise five years of saying no?

midable barricades to any-thing that looks like impetuosity. They make redundant any need to state here and now when a government of either perty would activate its de-clared willingness, in certain mstances, to take sterling into a European currency. But they are not enough for the red-bloods, whose case for a piedge is a mixture of inducement and threat. This is what they are saying: because EMU may

post-election Major govern ment that tried to get in would certainly split the party, why pretend any longer that the matter is in doubt? Why not come out, with that clarity for which the electorate is yearning, and say that Britain, in place of five years of saying maybe, can promise five years

of saying no? That would certainly be red blooded. It might give more than half the Tory Party a ter-rific thrill. It would put could be more easily depicted as the party that wants to get rid of the pound. The fine print would disappear from the position that now unites both leaderships in their careful indecision. This might please not just ideologues but tacticians. For anyone who can persuade themselves that the voters are fired up by EMU to the exclusion of any other issue, it would chart a

course towards the party of British nationalism. Mr Portillo, at the weekend, spoke on GMTV as though the moment were just around the corner. What this invites, however, what this mynes, however, is the surrender of the wimps. And that they will not offer. Although their policy, like most policies engaging with the real world, lacks instant thrills, their character is not

wimpish. If the April 3 concor-

dat doesn't hold, the Chancel-lor departs, Glibly, the red-bloods say: let him. John Major, there's still decent reason to hope, knows better. But it is a test of his residual statesmanship that he should see this, and not be seduced by the kamikaze appeal put for-ward by the likes of John Red-wood. He has not, after all, been a wholly reliable opponent of scaptic follies. We are already winding up to the autumn manoeuvres, and possibly the most corrosive Euro battle of his time. For blood

Abortion can still be the least of the evils



David Steel

HAVE always respected the minority view in the population which articulates that life begins at the moment of conception. To those who hold that view, then of course even the destruction of a microdot embryo is the same as murder, but these same as murder, but these people have no right to inflict that view on the majority of the population who do not share it Most concerned doctors whom I have met undertake these decisions very seri ously, and in each case regard abortion, if they agree to it, as

the lesser of two evils. The anti-abortion organisa tions which have been behind legal challenges this week are simply using the worrying case of the aborted twin to have another bash at the 1967 Abortion Act. These are the ame people who, a fortnight ago, were campaigning against the destruction of 3,000 microdot embryos.

The case in the news this week has been a highly un-usual and marginal one which nas provoked an understandably anxious debate. But it is important to think of what might have happened to this woman in years past. Thirty years ago, in 1966, if she had been in "straightened circum-stances" and desperate having found berself pregnant, find-ing it difficult to cope with one child already, she could well have ended up among the criminal abortion statistics. Or she may have finished among the many women who cluttered the public wards of our hospitals with the kinds of cases never seen nowadays as a result of botched abortions. ither self-induced or criminally performed by someone else. She might even have been among the 30 to 50 women a year who died as a result of criminal abortion, a statistic that is thankfully no longer in our public records. The result, in any event, could

in 1976, under the law I introduced, she could well have persuaded two doctors that she required an abortion, irrespective of whether she was carrying twins; and again both

have been the loss of both

octuses would have been lost. In 1996, because of the development of medical science, it has been possible, as I under-stand it, for a group of consultants in discussion with her to agree to the termination of one half of the pregnancy. The question arises: which of these hree courses is the least

On the surface it would ap- sponsored the 1967 Abortion Act

pear to be the last, but like many people I have reserva-tions about this relatively recent process of being able to abort one foetus (or more) in other intact, a technique which has been developed as a result of in vitro fertilisation and the dangers of multiple births. This is yet another ex-ample of new ethical dilemmas which have come upon us as a result of medical advances. We heart operations can be con-

We have also to remember France or one of several other European countries, she could, up until the 12th week of pregnancy, simply have made he own choice to have an abortion. That is not possible in Britain, where the certification of two medical practitio ners is required; and our total rate of abortion is still much less than that of the US and several of our nearest neigh-

We should also remind our selves about the section of the Act under which this opera-tion, and indeed many others, was carried out that "two registered medical practitio are of the opinion, formed in good faith, that the continuance of the pregnancy would involve risk to the life of the to the physical or mental health of the pregnant woman, or any existing children of her family greater than if the pregnancy were terminated ... In determining whether the continuance of a pregnancy would health, account may be taken of the pregnant woman's actual or reasonably foreseeable environment". This is a clear direction that Parliament intended that the medical profession should take all circumstances into account. And that is what the campaigners object

narrowed, we would simply see a return to the pre-1967 situation. The Act's opponents' problem is that they never campaigned against dangerous and criminal abortions; they only campaigned against safe and legal abortions.

Since 1967 the Act has been challenged many times by vartime. Parliament has declined the challenge, with the one myself) of changing the upper age limit from 28 pregnancy to 24. And 29 years on, I still believe that was the only thing I would have changed. Certainly the other issues of in vitro fertilisation and partial abortion are legiticussion — but for discussion among concerned organisations and experts, as matters of medical policy, and not among MPs as matters of legis-

ht

The Rt Hon Sir David Steel MP

Return ticket to Mars

Paul Davies argues that since | lar conditions are likely to | orite in the news, containing | remain viable almost indefithe planets have been hurling rocks at each other for aeons, life on Mars could have come from Earth. Or vice versa

announcement of tian micro-fossils signals a dramatic U-turn in scientific opinion about the Red Planet. Twenty years ago scientists had all but written off Mars as an abode for life following the Viking Lander missions. Samples of Martian topsoil scooped up by the Viking craft failed to show any convincing signs of organic activity. Moreover, the surface temperature and atmospheric pressure turned out to be dismally low. In short, Mars looked to be a sterile, forbid-

ding planet. Now scientists are questioning this negative conclu-sion. Even before yesterday's announcement, sentiment was shifting. Several Mars experts have for some time been expressing cautious optimism that Mars may once have har-boured life. Some have even gone so far as to suggest that Martian microbes may still survive today, deep beneath

the surface. One reason for this change of heart was the discovery of life in some unusual places on Earth. In the late 1970s blolo-gists were astonished to find gists were astonished organisms living on the ocean floor, several kilometres down in the super-heated water close to hot volcanic vents. Here there is no sun-

Thermophiles are indepen-dent of the food and energy dent of the took and energy chain that sustains surface life. Instead, they make a liv-ing from the hot chemical broth that vomits from the vents. This prolific source of energy supports an entire ecology that includes crabs

right, called archaea. Many biologists think the archaea closely resemble the Earth's earliest living organisms.

ASA's sensational | from the vents are richly laced with sulphurous and other chemicals that would kill most familiar organisms in pretty short order. Yet there are microbes — thermophiles — that positively thrive under these extreme conditions.

> and tube-worms several metres long. The deep-ocean thermophiles, together with their microbial cousins living in the boiling geysers of Yellow-stone National Park, are no evolutionary quirks. Indeed, there could be thousands of different species of these microbes. They are so weird that they form a separate kingdom of life in their own

> But this is not all. Deep drilling projects in the ocean floor, and also beneath the continents, have revealed traces of microbes in the crust of the Earth itself. Evidence is accumulating of an entire underworld of exotic life-forms, with microbes teeming in the hot rocks be-

Martian surface too during its 4.5-billion-year history. Photographs show ancient river systems on Mars, in-cluding huge canyons and deltast cut by running water. Geologists suspect that massive flash floods were caused by volcances melting underground ice deposits. The combination of volcanic activity and water could have created

a perfect environment for Martian thermophiles. However, suitable conditions are one thing, the actual emergence of life quite an other. Biologists still have scant idea how life originated. Durwin suggested it started in a "warm little pond" on the Earth's surface. The favoured theory is that chemical selforganisation occurred in a soup of organic compounds, creating molecules of greater and greater complexity, until the first truly self-replicating molecule was produced.

The trouble is, nobody knows how long this prebiotic phase lasted, or whether the first organism formed on the first organism formed on the Earth's surface, in the hot underworld, or somewhere else entirely. Also, scientists are sharply divided over whether the formation of life was a completely freak occurrence, unique in the universe, or a more or less inevitable result given the right conditions.

Curlously, even if life on Earth is a squillion-to-one freak occurrence, we cannot rule out life on Mars. Over the last decade or so, geologists have become convinced that a handful of meteorites found on Earth originated on the planet Mars. In fact, a vents. Here were a methour very feet.

In methour very feet.

The importance of this disconsisting to the fluids example of the flui fragment of one such Martian

recovered in 1986 from the Antarctic ice sheet. it may seem baffling that chunks of Mars are found

right here on Earth. How do they get here? The answer is simple. Every few million years Mars gets slammed by an asteroid or comet with enough force to blast rocks into space. You can see the craters clearly in satellite photos, peppering the Mar-tian landscape. Over the aeons the ejected fragments become strewn around the solar system. Some inevitably get swept up by other planets as they orbit the Sun. It has been estimated that 500kg of Martian material strikes the Earth every year. The same process is bound to happen in reverse: big impacts with Earth eject debris into space, some of which will reach Mars. So It seems as if rocky material is continually being exchanged between the

URING the first billion years of their 4.5-billionyear history, the planets would have been subjected to a much more intense cosmic bombardment. Rocks and coulders must have travelled in profusion between Earth and Mars.

The significance of this discovery for life on Mars is obvious. If Earth's rocks harbor microorganisms, then material displaced into space by impacts could convey live microbes to the Red Planet, whereupon they may emerge and colonise their new home Cocooned within a rock, a microbe would be shielded

microbes must survive their projection from Earth and the heat and shock of entry into the Martian atmosphere. Mathematical modelling by Jay Mellosh of the University of Arizona suggests that con-siderable quantities of rocks ejected by a major impact would in fact remain rela-tively unscathed. Moreover, a reasonable fraction of rocks that strike the Martian atmosphere at a glancing angle would slow and explode, spilling their microbial cargo gently to the ground. Today, any space-faring bugs would encounter harsh and proba-bly lethal conditions on Mars. But in the past, when condi tions were more favourable, they might have felt very much at home.

My conclusion, first presented at a series of lectures

in Italy in 1993, and described in my book Are We Alone?, is that Earth and Mars may well have cross-fertilised each other. During the first billion years, when microbial life began to establish itself on Earth, this interplanetary contamination might have been very common.

The new evidence presented by Nasa strongly sup-ports this theory. If a fossil microbe can reach Earth from Mars, it is likely that a live microbe can do so too. If so, it would be hard to tell whether life originated on Earth or Mars, or on both independently. It may turn out that Mars was the more favourable location. In which case we would all be descended from Martians.

Paul Davies Is Professor of University of Adelaide, and is currently writing a book about

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Revolutionary rabbit

cal history. As one of the founding members of the Nationalist Revolutionary Move ment (MNR), he led the bloody 1952 uprising that be-came known as the Bolivian Revolution. After Mexico and Cuba, it was one of the most far-reaching political movements in Latin America this century, leading to the nationalisation of Bolivia's tin mines, big reforms which gave land to the Indians, and the introduction of universal suffrage. But it was also short-lived and failed to resolve Bolivia's structural problem of

thin, myopic man, whose protuding front teeth earned him the nickname of "conejo" (rabbit). It was a misnomer deserved reputation for courage. During the 1952 uprising this diminutive man was out in the front, waving a pistol sticks of dynamite.

calibre: after the brief, bloody

for himself instead, he dutifully surrendered it to his party chief, Victor Paz Estensoro, who took several days to return from exile in

Argentina.
Siles Zuazo was the son of a president and a full-blooded political animal. But his career seemed almost ama-teurish. He was doubleteurish. He was double-crossed by those he trusted, and, in the rough-and-tumble of the Bolivian political scene, his idealistic approach sometimes seemed naive. Siles served as vice presi-dent under Paz Estenssoro and was himself elected presi-dent in 1956. He pushed abead with some changes, national

with some changes, nationalising the mines and introducing education and agrarian reforms. But he also decided reforms. But he also decided it was necessary to consolidate the gains of the revolution by adopting more orthodox policies. He gave in to pressure from the United States and the International Monetary Fund and introduced tough financial reforms, which alienated the labour movement and made abour movement and made

strengthened the army, which had been dissolved immediately after the revolution. When miners went on strike of their wages and the removal of food subsidies, Siles first went on hunger strike — a populist gesture to gain support that he repeated later in his life — and then sent in army troops to counter peasant and miner militias. Twenty years later, Siles Zuazo would look back

During the 1952 uprising, he was out in the front, ahead of miners hurling sticks of dynamite

at this period as the begin ning of the betrayal of the revolution. His reassessment of this period would have a profound impact on the poli-cies he adopted in his second Paz Estenssoro

that Paz was setting himself up as a "caudillo" and refused to give him his support for a

overthrow Paz in November. But this unlikely alliance was forced into exile. From his exile Chile and then Argentina, Siles opposed

the repressive military regimes that followed. On his return to Bolivia, Siles became increasingly radical as Paz Estenssoro and the other fellow-founders of the MNR veered to the centre-right. At the head of a loose electoral coalition of left-wing parties. Siles won three consecutive elections between 1978 and 1980. But the military refused to let him take office, clinging on to power until 1982, when international and domestic pressure forced them to hand over to civilian rule. When Siles was finally sworn in for his second term as president, he brought an end to 18 years

of military rule. Siles inherited an economy that was a shambles and widespread social unrest. The country had run up a foreign debt of US\$4 billion. The world price of tin, upon which Bolivia was heavily dependent, was at an all-time low. Widespread floods in 1963 wiped out a large part of

the highest levels ever recorded. But, mindful of the mistakes of his first adminis-tration, Siles tried to restage the 1962 revolution from the left. He refused to implement the stringent reforms de-manded by the IMF and Bo-American country officially to default on its debt.

At one stage, Siles offered to share government with the radical union body, the Cen-tral Obrera Boliviana (COB). But, led by Juan Lechin, the unions fought him ruthlessly, claiming that a truly left-wing government would hand over power to the working class. By late 1994 he was almost totally isolated, unable to control inflation, and facing s unrest. When Bolivia's bish-ops proposed that election be brought forward a year to 1985 — a move that became known somewhat whimsically as the "church coup" — Siles could only acquiesce Deeply embittered, he went into exile in Uruguay, when he lived until his death.

Hugo Estenssoro and James Hodges

Herman Siles Zuazo, politiciar



Siles Zuazo. . . an amateur in the double-crossing world of Bolivian politics

Kevin Moorhouse

Flight of the enchanted

Havilland Mosquito in the world. At British and overseas airshows, Moorhouse pro-vided crowds with the sight and sound of that extraordisecond world war fighter-bomber. He, and his engineer Steve Watson, were killed Barton Aerodrome.

with British Aerospace at Woodford, Cheshire. And in that, too, he was a rarity. The peth to the job usually starts with a Royal Air Force career. But Moorhouse, one of the most experienced and compe-tent test pilots in Britain, began as a 17-year-old apprentice at Avro Aviation in Oldham, and got his pilot's With BAe, and its aircraft

who has died in an air crash aged 50, flew the only airworthy de era; maritime reconsissance Shackletons born in the 1940s. Vulcan and Victor V-bombers developed in the 1950s and the VC10 transport of the 1960s. But his work focused on modern transport aircraft which he tested across the world — the HS748, BAe146, ATP turboprop, the Avro RJ whisper jet time reconaissance Nimrod. With a new Nimrod development programme recently announced, Kevin had hopes for He was born and raised in

> would watch the de Havilland Fox Moth biplanes crawling off Southport sands on pleasure flights, build model aircraft, and dream of flying. Then in 1963, aged 17, he joined Avro. Later, he quit a

Southport, and as a child he



Moorhouse. . . airlifted life

aeronautical engineering degree course — where he had taken up gliding — after two years, but in 1967, back at BAe at Woodford, he gained an HNC at Stockport Coilege — and took fiving lessons at Berand took flying lessons, at Bar-

only old aircraft. He was the joint owner of a 1932 de Havilland Tiger Moth which he was restoring. Friendly, capable, modest, with a mischievous dry humour Kevin was a natural teacher and a pilot's pilot. He leaves his wife Gill and two daughters.

John Kevin Moorhouse, test pilot, Loughborough University July 21, 1996

To prove a villain

who has died aged 82, had a gift for chilling an audience's blood. He was an actor whose shambling figure, grim down-turned mouth, piercing blue eyes, hatchet profile, and gravelly voice — usually enunciating terrifyingly ba-nal threats in an unidentifiable accent - came in very useful when playing the epit ome of evil.

The accent was actually Swiss-German and it tinged whatever language he spoke with a weird disquiet. Howborn in Baden of a Swiss father and an American mother, who encouraged his ession for the theatre. He tudied drama in Berlin and Paris, and tap-danced and sang in variety and musical

His first stage part, in 1945, was in an Occupation drams. Un Ami Viendra Ce Soir, directed by Raymond Bernard, who turned it into a heimer's The Train and took film. It was the first of a a similar role in Anion Lit-number of film quickies in vak's 1967 Night of the Gener-

VERNON, the same vein. One which als. In Clive Donner's What's died aged stood out was Christian Jaca a gift for ques' adaptation of Guy de showed his subtle comic bur-Maupassant's short story Boule de Suif (1945), a deli-ciously ironic tale of the 1870 Prussian occupation of Rouen with Vernon as the Prussian officer who extorts the

favours of a plump lady of the streets — Boule de Suif. His Erich von Stroheim impersonation was to be repeated in Jean-Pierre Mel-ville's film of Vercors' famous Resistance novel Le Silence de la Mer (1949). This brought Vernon a first taste of fame. ville's Bob le Flambeur (Bob the Gambler) in 1956 and an adaptation of Beatrix Beck's best-seller Lion Morin, Pretre (1962). Before that, the great actor-director Sacha Guitry cast him in Le Diable Boi-teaux (1948) and Si Versailles

d'était Conté (1953). In 1964, he appeared as a stiff-necked, monocled German officer in John Frankenlesque gifts to great advan-tage. Jean-Luc Godard called upon him for Alphaville in

Fritz Lang had given him a good role in what was to be the director's final work, Die Tausand Augen von Doktor Mabuse (The 1,000 Eyes of Dr Mabuse) in 1960. It was the start of one of Vernon's later specialities, playing in low calibre fantasy-thrillers, to which he brought a slightly perverse, ironic detachment lowed with "son of" offspins like The Orgies of Dr Orloff (1966) and Orloff and the Invisible Man (1970). He also played in The Sadistic Baron bon Klaus (1962), The Ven geance of Zorro (1962), In the Grip of a Maniac (1965), an adaptation of De Sade's erotic

fantasy Justine (1968) and

many rock-bottom Franken-stein and Dracula erotic-de-Birthdays Isabel Allende, novelist, 53:

Fortunately, a period fol-lowed in which Vernon's gifts were recognised by younger film-makers, for whom he had become a cult figure. Among them is Benoft Jacques, in whose L'Assassin Musicien (1976) he plays a musical genius obsessed with self-destructive urges.
Jean-Marie Straub, and his

wife and co-director Danièle literate films on a shoe-string, starred Vernon in a remark-

to act well and appear to be in Le Champignon des Car-taking seriously what was often awful trash. He began in 1961 with Jess Franco's The Horrible Dr Orloff, and fol-was Vernon's last film in a professional life that was a roller-coaster of styles and emotions. He deserves a National Film Theatre retrospective.

Howard Vernon, actor, born

Letter

Richard Wolfe writes: In 1964, light recent graduates from the University of Bristol spent their last summer of freedom in a hired minibus touring Eastern Europe. When we got to Prague (via Berlin, Moscow and Kisv), the engine fell out and we were "forced" to spend a week in that marvellous city. We met Abdulrahman Mohamed Babu (obituary, August 6) in a cafe, with his usual entourage of East African students putting the world to rights.

We were welcomed into the group and generously entertained by Bahu, with good food and endless discussions about African and world politics. Babu was trying to per-suade the Czech regime to set up a shoe-making factory in Tanzania. The final night we all had the most amazing Chi-nese meal, with about 50 guests. A knowledgeable and kind man. Truly, it was four

61; Ronald Biggs, one of the great train robbers, 67;

Prof Jack Baldwin, chemist, 57; Keith Barron, actor,

MP, 54; Keith Carradine, actor, singer and songwriter. cian and composer, 89; Lord Chapple, former trade union leader, 75; Dr Michael Clark, Conservative MP, 61; Viscount Combermere. biblical lecturer, 67; Sarab starred Vernon in a remarkable visionary 1987 work based on Friedrich Hölderlim's dramatic poem Der Tod von Empedocles (The Death of Empedocles) shot entirely on the slopes of Mount Eina.

Another young director, Jean-Claude Biette, made Howard Vernon his acteuristiche niaving leading parts biblical lecturer, 67; Saran Dunant, thriller writer, 57; Saran Dunant, thriller writer, 507; Saran Dunant, 507; Saran Dunant, thriller writer, 507; Saran Dunant, thrille Dustin Hoffman, actor and perfectionist, 59; Dino de Laurentiis, film producer, 77; Nigel Mansell, champion racing driver and auto-biographer, 43; Elizabeth Monkhouse, adult educa-tionalist, 84; Sir Patrick Neill QC, lawyer and former Warden of All Souls, Oxford, 70; Prof Roger Penrose, mathematician, 65; Jason Pooley, cricketer, 27; James Sherwood, the president of Sea Containers plc, 63; Barbara Sonnentag, fashion designer, 34; Connie Stevens, actress and singer, 58; Esther Williams, champion swimmer and movie actress. 73; Jimmy Witherspoon, traditional blues singer, 78; Sir Alan Muir Wood, civil

Death Notices

TYPSELL. Marjory dedicated teacher, socialist, Co-operator. OXFAM worker at Southend, Feltinam, Hounstow and Osterley 1922-1966, died suddenly August 3rd, Much Idved and Sadily missed by husband lack, brother Hugh, sons Chris and Jerry, prand-children Jack and Sophie, and her family, friends and colleagues. Donaldrens to OXFAM and the Teacher's Benevolent Fund. MINCERT, Affred Bene, Clied pescelatily on 5th August, aged 95 years, after a luft and productive life. Committee to Trade Unionism and social justice. Funeral at Mortiston. 2012. August 12th Au

Births

To place your ennouncement telephone 0171 713 4567. Fax 0171 713 4129.

into the buggy. And then they

Len Coldwell

Good man at the county wicket

Lord's in 1962 when he bowled England to a big victory over Pakistan in his Test debut in front of a Saturday crowd of

This is not how Coldwell is likely to be remembered: he only played seven Tests, and was never really a man for the grand occasion. In workaday county cricket he was one of the most effective bowlers of the 1960s, and epitomised the professional bowler of his era: under-paid and over-worked battling on through a succes-sion of injuries; liking a smile and a pint; but undemonstrative in both his cricket and his personality. What made him special was

pionship in 1962, and then to the club's first-ever titles in 1964 and 1965. It was a classic pairing: Flavell bowling outswing, Coldwell bowling inswing. With top-quality batsmen led by Tom Graveney and Don Kenyon, high-class spin from Norman Gifford, and a lovely spirit throughout the side, Worcestershire supplanted Yorkshire as the mos feared team in the country.

wickets — a figure surpassed only once, by Derek Under-wood in 1966, in the 33 seasons since then, and now unthink able. That summer he bowled 1,103 overs, an extraordinary workload for someone neve wholly confident of the sturdi-

EN COLDWELL, who with Jack Flavell. Together ness of his hips and knees.

has died suddenly aged they took Worcestershire to According to Basil D'Oli
63, had his finest hour at the brink of the County Cham
the brink of the County Cham
veira. Coldwell would work out exactly where to bowl to sometimes he would aim straight at the stumps; some treme edge of the crease. His methods proved less effective at the highest level. His suc-cess against Pakistan got him on to the 1962-63 tour of Australia, but conditions were less beloful and batamen less easy to think out. He returned for the first two Tests against Australia in 1964, was obliged to bowl a 100-minute spell in conditions which Wisden says

would have been far more res-ponsive to spin, and was never hosen again. Coldwell played on for

then retired in mid-season and returned to Devon, where he later years, he helped run a seaside café and became cap-tain of Teignmouth Golf Club. His comradeship with Fla vell lasted way beyond cricket. The two of them were firm friends as well as part-ners in the fast bowling business, and the families always stayed with each other on holidays together. Coldwell had been looking forward to a hip replacement operation and to getting rid of some of the pain that had bothered him since his playing days.

Leonard John Coldwell, crickster, born January 10, 1933; dled



Underpaid and overworked . . . Len Coldwell bowling

Jackdaw

The letter

FROM Grubman Indursky Schindler & Goldstein, P.C. July 19, 1996

Dear Mr. Myers: We represent Random Ven-tures, Inc., the exclusive worldwide proprietor of the trademark "George", which trademark it has previously liceneed for use in connection licensed for use in connection with "George" magazine and various online and Internet versions of the same. It has come to our attention that you have launched a site on the World Wide Web entitled george ir." Please be advised that your use of this name (as well as the use of your domain name, georgejr.com) infringes

upon and violates our client's exclusive proprietary intellectual property rights. This is a serious violation and misan propriation of our client's rights and, accordingly, we hereby demand that you immediately cease and desist from any such use of the name "george ir" if and/or any variation(s) thereof which may in-fringe our client's rights. We also demand an accounting of all revenues you have derived from the foregoing activities so that we can properly assess the damages our client has suffered. If you do not immediately comply with the fore-going (and confirm to us in writing within five days of the date of this letter that you have done so), we will have n choice but to immediately begin to pursue any and all legal and/or equitable remedies that may be available to our client. The foregoing is without prejudice to all rights and remedies our client may have in connection with this

matter, all of which are

hereby expressly reserved. Very truly yours

This, allegedly, is the original letter that George Magazine's lawyers sent to George Myers "george jr" and owner of the domain www.georgejr.com. It is found at newsgroup alt.journalism.

The reply

JULY 25, 1996 Dear Mr. Shire, I was surprised to get your letter yesterday, in which you expressed concern about potential trademark infringement and "revenues" from my home page. My home page, georgejr.com, is a hobby that I do in the evenings in my basement: there's no revenue, no company, no office, no anything but me. It's entirely non-com-mercial. And George Jr. is actually my given name, and what everyone has called me my whole life, personally and professionally. I note, by the

way, that there are many sites on the web that dispense

news or views and that have

George as a key element of

their names. (I'll enclose a

partial list for your informa-

tion.) Anyway, your request to kill off my site seems a bit dramatic considering the size and nature of your publishing operation and that that my rite is devoted to literary, bumor and software enthusiasts primarily. I trust that this now brings this matter to

Very sincerely George Myers Jr. George's Home Page, George of Japan, George Washing-

ton, George's Literature, George Burns, Art by George Homepage, George's News and magazines, The George Store, George Gier, Farewell George Jr. george.html, St. George magazine. George Jr's reply at alt.journalism. George Jr sadly bemoans the fate of his small homepage. "All I want is my name, but I can't afford the

Big story

AN 18 year-old student claimed on her car insurance for an accident whilst "visiting friends". She had a hit a high curb, causing the vehiher friends? We can't imag-ine who they were , consider-ing she'd detoured her Escort on to Silverstone

racetrack. A man claimed for damage to his windscreen. He was driving along a narrow country lane when a cow fell
off a ledge — as they often do
— on to the windscreen. After
braking hard, the cow slid off
the bonnet and ambled off.

A man claimed for the amount he'd been charged by a farmer for killing one of his ostriches. His dog had escaped from the car during a visit to the farm, and chased after a terrified ostrich, causing it to run into the car and break its neck.

A man claimed for stolen tems from his house after a burglary. The items? A col-lection of handcrafted leather and PVC hoods for bondage, as well as sundry whips, chains and crops. The insur-ance company paid out. And

Maxim, with the help of Direct Line, Eagle Star and several

other insurance companies collected a few real claims that could even beat the porkies you

used to tell at school about why

Honeymoon?

"SO WHO'S in the parlour—the bride and the groom?"
"Well, the groom. The bride is going to come down the tairs, on the arm of her

"I thought you said that the happy couple usually didn't have any family with them."



The driver plays the father. The one who drove them out from Charlotte Town. "And there's a minister? "Yes, a regular United

Church of Canada Minister. "But, is that legal in Japan?"
"Oh, they're married before they come. This is just for the

"And who else is in the "Well the organist. My wife.
She plays The Voice That
Breathed O'er Eden — the

same song that was played at Lucy Montgomery's wedding. There's sometimes a soloist to sing the song and I'm outside with the horse. What horse? You didn't say anything about a horse." "After Lucy Maud was mar ried, my grandfather drove her and her husband to the

station. So we have a horse and buggy, and the bride and the groom drive around the Lake of Shining Waters and have their picture taken " "You do the driving?"

"Unless it's a deluxe wed-ding. Then they get Mathew to drive them. I just hold the horse's head and help them

have a sort of reception in the tearoom. If it's a de-luxe, then they have a cake that's precisely the sort of cake that Lucy Maud had. Also, if it's a de-luxe, Anne comes to the reception. Someone playing Anne, of course." The Anne of Green Gables phenomenon in Japan has stretched to Japanese couples travelling across the world to get re-married in the church

that Anne's author L M Montgomery got married in on Prince Edward Island, Charlottetown. Apparently, this makes them feel that they are almost in the book as Maud's life was so indistinguishable from her fictional heroine. Calvin Trillin interviews George Campbell, who marries Japanese couples during their three-day group tours to the island. New Yorker

lackdaw wants jewels. E-mail jackdaw@guardian.co.uk; fax 0171-713 4366; Jackdaw, The Guardian, 119 Farringdon Road, London ECIR 3ER.

Emily Sheffield

Miners may try to save last big pit in North Wales, page 12 Hong Kong bonanza for Standard Chartered, page 12

Financial Editor: Alex Brummer Telephone: 0171-239-9610 Fax: 0171-833-4456

Finance Guardian



Precious waste . . . Miles Brough (above), managing director of Jesse Brough Metals, with a lump of foundry dross. The company has won the Small Business category in an award scheme backed by the North Staffordshire Chamber of Commerce and Industry, for its reclamation of aluminium which is normally dumped in landfill sitesphotograph DAVID MANISELL

US suitor for East Midlands

AKEOVER fever returned to the electricity industry with a vengeance yesterday with news that an American power company has been contem-plating a \$2.5 billion (£1.6 billion) bid for East Midands Electricity. As shares rose sharply in

the five English regional elec-

Shareholder

might returns

vived the last bout of take | hopes of mounting the bid, al- | pump storage business last | stalking English regional | three wholly owned subsiderers, Dominion Resources of | though the company is likely | year but was outbid. Domin- | electricity companies. | iaries, 10,000 employees and Richmond, Virginia, declined to comment on a published report that it had been blocked by its state regulator from bidding for the Notting-

ham company. Similarly, the State Corpo-ration Commission declined to comment on whether the company had sought the "letter of certification" needed for a bid to be cleared by regu lators in Washington. Analysis suggested that the

to consult its lawyers about the prospects of overturning the commission's stance. East Midlands shares rose 14p to 597p. There were also

increases at Southern Elec-tric of 21p to 682p, London Electricity of 18p to 629p, Yorkshire Electricity of 10p to 718.5p and Northern Electric of 14p to 546p.

Dominion has previously been eyeing British assets. It was one of the potential buy-ers of the National Grid's

ion has admitted that it was pursuing a strategy of aggres sive expansion overseas. It is in the final stages of closing the acquisition of 8 power stations in Peru.

A spokesman said: "Speal ing generally, the company has looked at possibilities be-yond Latin America and it would not rule out an attrac tive European transaction." Disclosure of Dominion's

would snap up the remaining regional electricity compa-nies. He said: "The market had been assuming that the US would see the regulatory and political risk as a deterrent. Investors are now realising that the stocks are very

One analyst said Dominion

had given the stockmarket fresh hope that US utilities

cheap against bid valua-Dominion Resources is a

Virginia Power is the largest, supplying electricity to 2 million homes and businesses in Virginia and North Caro-

assets worth \$14 billion.

cial services company, has in-terests in lending and prop-

Dominion Resources, the group's vehicle for overseas 19 power stations in the US

French to extend stake in rail network

chief to power

Eurotherm investors

tional shareholders of Eurotherm, the electronic components group, yes lerday succeeded in reinstating the company's former chief executive, Class

flex their muscles

and make history,

writes lan King

1. 1. pan 第十名中華

Mr Hultman, who resigned last month after a boardroom row with executive chairman Jack Leonard, returns as part of a shake-up in which Dr Leonard is to retire some

seven months early. It is only the second time in City history that a chief executive has been reinstated after pressure from shareholders and the first time that

a majority of shareholders have forced such a move. On the previous occasion, in 1992, shareholders won the reappointment of Jonathan Hubbard-Ford as chief execu-

tive of software house Pegasus.
Dr Leonard will be replaced Sir James Hann, the popular former boss of Scottish Nuclear, who brokered the deal after 10 days of intensive negotiations with Eurotherm di-rectors and shareholders. The institutions

However, under the terms of the reorganisation - news of which sent Eurotherm shares up 15p to 565p — Mr Hultman will relinquish the position of deputy chairman, which he had only occupied group's biggest private

Announcing Mr Hultman's return, Sir James admitted that the solution had been 'difficult" to schieve, but said Eurotherm was now ideally placed to continue growing profitably. He added: "Some degree of

sanity has returned and hope-fully we can now draw a line under this period and return to business as usual." Sir James said Dr Leonard who had been on a salary and

benefits package of about £200,000 a year, would not be receiving any kind of pay-off golden handshake part of the deal.

Meanwhile, Mr Hultman, who is regarded as having transformed Eurotherm, and who last year made a paper profit of over £1.8 million on share options, said he was looking forward to getting back to work.

Mr Hultman walked out last month after falling out with Dr Leonard — one of Eurotherm's co-founders over company strategy, and in particular his desire to become executive chairman, a move resisted by Dr Leonard. But Eurotherm's institu-tional shareholders reacted angrily to the highly regarded Mr Hultman's departure which caused a collapse in Eurotherm's share price and immediately demanded

The institutions - thought to include Schroders, the Prudential and Mercury Asset Management — were joined by Jim Harnett, Eurotherm's

Rebecce Smithers Political Correspondent

THE French utility group Compagnie Générale des Eaux is set to extend its stake in Britain's rail passenger network by taking control of its second franchise — the busy South Enstern commuter line. London & South Coast

a subsidiary of the compa-ny's transport arm CGRA — was yesterday named by the Government's franchising director as its "pre-ferred" bidder for the line. South Eastern ranks South Eastern ranks
A spokesman for the troversy by admitting it among the four biggest Office of Rail Passenger would not provide new bighest bidders in Europe."

A spokesman for the troversy by admitting it would not provide new bighest bidders in Europe."

senger revenue, earning | terday that the oldest | franchise, and that job cuts 2215 million in 1994/95, | trains — nearly 40 years | were in the pipeline.

and employs just over 4,000 | old — must be replaced | One of the group's subsidstaff. The line operates out of six London termini to Surrey, Kent and Susser and attracts an annual gov-ernment subsidy of nearly

The franchise is also a controversial one because the Government fought off a potential backbench rebellion from unhappy ising that the replacement of old-fashioned slam door trains would be a requirement for the new owner.

within the first three years of the 15-year franchise.

ment, which will lead to a deal being formally con-cluded before the end of the month, is a blow to the other bidders — Stagecoach, the management team in conjunction with FirstBus, and a consortium known as GB Railways. In April, CGEA took over

another commuter line, Network SouthCentral, and immediately attracted con-

taries has been the subject of fraud investigations over the award of contracts, although nobody has been charged. The group has a turnover of £18 billion, with 2,500 separate firms and 215,000 employees. Yesterday's announce-

ment was condemned by Labour's transport spokes woman, Glenda Jackson, who said: "Just as Mr Major is pontificating about protecting Britain from the interference of

gating the copper market

Winchester 'spurned by bank'

REDIT Lyonnais, the troubled French bank, appears to have ordered lary, Credit Lyonnais Rouse, metals market have been its metals broking subsidiary in London to terminate a profit sharing agreement with Winchester Commodities, the British metals trader, two British metals trader, two years ago, according to an in-ternal document received by

the Guardian. Winchester, which handled a large portion of business in the copper market carried out by Sumitomo Corporation's disgraced dealer, Yasuo Ha-manaka, remains under scru-tiny as part an international investigation into how the investigation into how the Japanese group was able to run up losses of at least \$1.8 billion (£1.2 billion) through allegedly unauthorised dealings.

Charial Lanchon, a senior executive in the Paris-based capital markets division of Credit Lyoumals, wrote to Roy teichton and Bill Bradwell.

Leighton and Bill Bradwell. respectively chairman and Metal Exchange clearing bro-

quire a 20 per cent stake in

"Obviously this negotiation determining a formula of sharing commissions or other revenue from reciprocal busi-CL Rouse, but I want CL Rouse to remain immune from any risk in another company's results, without being a shareholder, which anyway is not to be considered," the

шешо муз. While away on holiday yes terday, Mr Leighton issued a statement: "The commercial arrangements between CL Rouse and Winchester (for whom it acted as a London

metals market] have been known to the Securities and Futures Authority [the City watchdog] since the outset of CL Rouse's relationship with Winchester, CL Rouse is fully satisfied that it has met all regulatory and exchange reporting obligations in rela-tion to its business and customers. It is not CL Rouse's policy to comment on internal memorands obtained without its authorisation or otherwise on its commercial arrangements with its customers.' In June, Sumitomo sacked him of running up losses of at least \$1.8 billion through unauthorised trades. However, Rouse has stated that business

transacted by it for Sumitomo was properly authorised and

properly reported. Winchester has also stated that its copper

dealings with Sumitomo were

nos either gambled behind

fully authorised.

since the summer of 1994 and launched a formal investigation into Winchester's affairs in the autumn of that year after discovering details of the biggest single deal ever trans acted in the metals markets. The SFA spent more than a year examining what has be come known as the "Radr" transaction - a trade involvtomes of copper, worth \$2% billion, struck between Win-chester and Sumitomo through CL Rouse — and subsequently cleared the parties of any wrongdoing. The deal netted Winchester a profit of more than \$100 million.

During the financial year covering the Radr transaction, Messrs Leighton and Bradwell received pay packets in excess of £2 million piece — almost four times their excess the statement of the st their salary in the previous

Notebook

Rate decision riven with politics



Mark Milner

STERDAY, the Bank of England told the Chan-cellor, Kenneth Clarke, Lady) pretty robust terms that, far from looking for another cut in interest rates, he should bend his mind to thinking about an increase.

In the City, the chances of
Mr Clarke following the ad-

vice in the latest quarterly information report by increasing the cost of borrowing with an election rather less than a year away are not rated that highly. Yet on the foreign ex-changes, a slightly battered pound nudged up against the dollar and the mark and the gilts market registered a mod-

est improvement. While this might not appear remarkable now, it is worth trying to imagine what would have happened in 1993-94 when the Bank and the Tressury first began to go public on the debate over interest rate policy through publication of the inflation report in early 1993 and the minutes of Chancellor/Governor meetings on monetary policy in

In those days it was considered doubtful if Chancellor and Governor would agree to differ on whether interest rates should go up or down. Many analysts assumed that both would be so afraid of the effect on the financial mar-

kets of a policy split that such a split would never happen. since then is that Mr Clarke can overrule the Bank's ad-

pound or the gilts market into The Bank would no doubt argue that the gap between Messra Clarke and George is relatively narrow. Sceptics might argue that the Bank's recent forecasting record has undermined the effect of its

cautionary approach and that, any way, Mr Clarke is the man to watch because he is the one calling the shots. Such qualifications aside, it does appear that, while it is not perfect, the process of pub-lic disclosure of the conduct of

monetary policy looks to be more robust than critics intially suggested it might be. What of the more immediate issue, to raise or not to raise? The Bank is arguing

emptive strike against inflation. A small but timely rise in interest rates (that means sooner rather than later. aceconomist, Mervyn King) would prevent rates having to be raised by a larger amount if the decision were deferred. The snag is the politics. Mr Clarke is politician enough to

assess the risks to his party's prospects of re-election in higher interest rates, especially if that meant dearer home loans. If he does not act (or even cuts again), however, | openly, more often.

but the Conservatives still lost the election it might well be an incoming Labour Chan-cellor who had a tough decision to take in the early days

It could be argued that the solution is to remove funda mental economic decisions from the political arena by handing over policy-making to the Bank. Better still if fight-

Vanguard Standard

T SAYS much about the state of the British economy that NatWest and Barclays like to use surplus cash to buy back their own shares. By contrast, the prospects in Standard Chartered's Far East franchise are so tempt ing that it is looking for expansion — even in Hong Kong where the last British flag

500 days. Far from suffering from falling confidence, business in run up to the colony's takeover by China (where Stanits business) is booming. Takregion, trading profit from personal banking was up by more than 40 per cent.

The only question now is how long Standard can keep main uncertainty hangs over its heavy exposure to the Far where it is a major partipant. Risks of a property price crash have been hedged by its policy of restricting loans to an average of no more than 70

As the bank points out, prices are becoming so toppy there are signs that regional governments are taking steps

borrowing. As governments look to put their own property markets on a better footing, Standard is continuing to put it own shead with a rationalisation programme which has trimmed its cost income ratio from more than 60 per cent to

just under 55 per cent. Certainly this set of results should put to rest longstand-ing bid speculation which has consistently made Standard the favourite bid target in the entire banking sector. With a billion, it has priced itself out of the market. Even for British banks looking for ways of spending surplus cash.

Institutions act

NSTITUTIONAL shareholders are usually reluc-tant to use their clout in public, which is what makes yesterday's settlement of the boardroom bust-up at Eurotherm so unusual.

The tradition is that the management should run the company without being second guessed by sharehold-ers while with public action comes public accountability or at least the public can apportion responsibility. That, however, should not discourage institutional investors from acting more

However, there was some

comfort for the Government

in the optimism about future

demand expressed by execu-tives in the five regions.

The survey also suggested inflationary pressure is benign across the country.

with manufacturers in mos

regions expecting to cut

prices over the next four months.

Welcoming the survey as evidence that all regions were feeling more buoyant about

future demand and output,

BSL director Richard Holt added a warning that

businesses tended to be over-

Most of the fall in total

Half the country missing out on upturn in manufacturing

Şarah Ryle

ALF of Britain's regions have yet to experience the full benefits of the recovery in consumer spending and are being squeezed by the continued economic downturn in Europe, a new survey by the Confederation of British Industry showed yesterday. The survey, jointly carried out with consultants Business

Strategies (BSL), confirmed that the long-awaited upturn in manufacturing is patchy, with factory bosses in five of the UK's 11 regions reporting falling demand for their

Total orders in the four months to July rose in six regions but fell in Yorkshire & Humberside, the North, Wales, the West Midlands and Scotland, compounding the Conservatives' electoral diffi-

orders experienced by the five regions was a result of falling demand for manufactured exports, he said, and he expected rising consumer spending and export demand to supply the biggest boost to

TOURIST RATES - BANK SELLS Australia 1.9350 France 7.52

Austria 15.61 Belgium 45.69 Canada 2.0725 Cyprus 0.8860 Denmark 8.62

Norway 9.83 Portugal 229.00

optimistic.

Something has to give when the Greeks' two greatest national pastimes clash in January the Greek "Iron | help crack down on her | ernment. Last week, in an | to be granted entrance into | Lady" has made curtailing | compatriots' other national | unprecedented move, a US | the country's three blacks.

Helena Smith in Athens

JUST when Greek gam-Jblers thought they were on a winning streak, they have been told they will be forced to prove, if they want to go on betting, that they are honest taxpayers. The damper for thou-sands of fortune-hungry punters follows measures announced by Vasso Papan-

dreou, Greece's powerful development minister.

Lady" has made curtailing the nation's new national sport a personal mission, in the wake of reports that innumerable players have cone bankrupt on the gam-

This summer, Ms Papandreou pledged that she will submit draft legislation in parliament to limit casino ands of fortune-hungry parliament to limit casmo operating hours and force operation hours and f

pastime — tax evasion. The move has not won the minister many friends at the suit. home and, in the case of foreign consortiums which have invested heavily in the casinos, even fewer

US consortium Marrecor

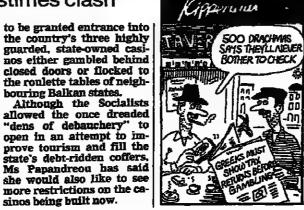
the minister to respond to

Greeks, who can now enjoy gaming houses around the clock, only got their first real taste of the gambling world last year, when the late Andreas Papan-

the roulette tables of neighbouring Balkan states.

Although the Socialists allowed the once dreaded "dens of debauchery" to open in an attempt to improve tourism and fill the state's debt-ridden coffers, Ms Papandreou has said

she would also like to see more restrictions on the ca-



culties in these areas.

Germany 2.22 Greece 357.60

Italy 2,293 Matta 0.5350 Netherlands 2,4925 New Zealand 2,19

Singapore 2.17 South Africa 6.70 Spain 188,25 Sweden 10.01 Switzerland 1.7925

Standard Chartered cheered by **HK** bonanza

Patrick Donovan

TANDARD Chartered sweeping through its key Hong Kong market in the last days of British sovereignty. announcing that trading prof-its from personal banking business has grown by more than 40 per cent over the last

ness in the colony rocketed, according to Standard group chief executive Malcolm Wil-liamson who insisted that the over in July next year.

Such was the growth in the Hong Kong market that it now accounts for just under 40 per cent of group profits, surging from £114 million to £153 million over the half

year period. Overall profits increased by £129 million to £448 million and the interim dividend is up by 1p to 4.25p. Overall, the tey net interest margin is up from 3.3 per cent to 3.5 per cent with the interest spread increased by 0.3 percentage

League table

HSBC £2.32bn (up 34pc) Barciays E1.3bn (up 15pc) Lioyda TSB £1.14bn (up 12pc) NatWest £879m (up 23oc)

credit cards and trade busi-ness, Standard said. Profit taking saw shares dip

Mr Williamson warned that the bank may be unable to keep up its level of returns within its core Far East market and will be looking to make further economies through a cost-cutting regime cost-income ratio cut by six cent. He said there were signs that government concern about the growth of mortgage kets was being held back by government measures to calm property lending, making it unlikely that this rate of growth can continue"
Standard said that the goal

is to cut the cost-income ratio which is likely to involve job losses, although he declined to spell out numbers in-

"Costs over the six-month period rose £20 million to £538 million over the first balf of the year. We have reduced headcount to 25,500 and are on schedule to meet our targets", said chairman Patrick

He added: "More investment is needed in the future but the rigorous control of costs and a reduction in headcount remain a priority

Despite the strength of the bank's balance sheet, he ruled out any possibility that Standard would follow the lead of British high street banks and spend spare cash on buying back its own shares in order to prop up their value in the market.

He insisted that Standard could generate far more value by continuing to invest heav-ily in its existing business.

Abbey predicts loans recovery

EW mortgage lending could top £16 billion this year, the first significant rise since the late 1980s. Abbey National, the UK's second largest lender,

Reporting a 16 per cent in-crease in first-half pre-tax profits to £558 million, chief executive Peter Birch said about 6 per cent.
there were "seeds of a recovery" in the housing profits inch up by 2 per cent market. Abbey National is to 2321 million. But liquid forecasting total lending for the year at £16.4 billion. against £15 billion last year market's peak in 1988. But Mr. Birch counselled against per cent of pre-tax profits.

over-excitement. He said: "It is a modest increase. If Chancellors and Bank of England Governors they have felt in the late

Mr Birch sald that a more regular market would be around £25 billion.

Chairman Lord Tugendhat said Abbey National's share of the mortgage market had expanded to 15 per cent following its £1.35 billion acquisition of National & Provincial. Its stock of residen- grated in Dresdner's results.

The 2.5 million former N&P members can expect to receive around £875 million in cash this month and later some savers will benefit from the distribution of £475 million in shares. Eighty-four million new Abbey National shares have been issued, increasing share capital by

savings experienced a net out-flow of £1.3 billion.

Non-traditional activities such as life assurance and pensions now account for 42.5 Abbey National reaffirmed its interest in acquiring a life assurance company to join its own branch-based organisa-

Kleinwort Benson, bought for £1 billion by Dresdner Bank, helped boost first-half operating profits at Germany's second largest bank by 44 per cent to 1.42 billion marks (£620 million) on the back of the mergers and acquisitions boom. It is the first time Kleinwort has been fully inte-



A sudden end to the 130year-old colliery, which has battled for survival since being taken over by RJB Mining four years ago, would reduce Welsh coal production to its lowest for 300 years.

The principality's last deep mined output is the 500,000 tonnes produced annually at profitable Tower Colliery, near Hirwaun, which was resurrected when its workers

Point of Ayr colliery, says Martyn Halsall INERS' leaders at the | reopen the Mid-Glamorgan colliery nine months after it closed in April 1994.

last deep colliery in North Wales will today consider trying to buy the pit, for a reported £1.2 mil-lion, to avoid its closure. tempt, the only hope of con-tinuing coal industry work for North Wales's 200 last deep minining, which employed 250,000 miners during peak miners lies with transfers to Midlands and Yorkshire colproduction in 1913, will face a lieries owned by RJB, which reduction to a single colliery took over 17 former British Coal pits when they were pri-vational at the end of 1994. RJB said yesterday that Point of Ayr was the smallest neer Talacre, in North Wales

Miners may try to raise £1.2m to buy

pits it inherited. Ironically, the colliery was Government after a national outcry over British Coal plans, which earmarked it for

said, it had spent almost £11 billion to more than £60 redundancy payments to mated 3.38 million recover-

been extracted, largely for sale to the nearby Fiddlers Ferry power station.
The 313,000 tonnes produced

Clocking off... Yesterday's final shift at the private pit reprieved in 1992 by the Government after a national outcry over British Coal closure plans

Last big North Wales pit is suddenly closed

last year made an operating loss of £2.85 million and the half-year to July 1996 had seen on an output of 177,000 tonnes. One of the pit's two seams, under the Dee estuary, had Bill Rowell, managing di-

rector of RJB deep mines, yes terday said closure had be come inevitable. He said: "We have gone that extra mile in an attempt to achieve viability. But the results over a lengthy period make us con-clude there is no prospect of achieving sustained viable production in the future Mr Rowell conceded that

closure in 1992.

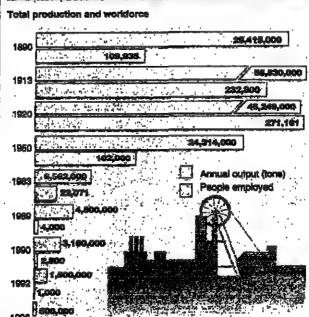
Since the takeover, RJB skilled workforce". He said: "Managa 24.5 million switching to new production methods. Around made every effort to achieve

Patrick Heesom, local coun-cilior and leading campaigner the closure was "bitter news for the many who fought so hard for years to maintain deep mining in North Wales". The Immediate cessation of ing underlined the dramatic collapse of an industry seen

as a vital part of the Welsh economy since coal was first The principality's coal pro-duction peaked before the optput of 56.8 million toppe in the dominant South Wales field in 1913, when 232,800 miners were employed in dozens of collieries across the

South Wales still supported l**40** collieries in 1953. Total Welsh coal produc tion fell from more than 24 million tonnes to 800,000 tion in 1947 and Point of Ayr's

Devastation in the Welsh coalfields



Pallets underpin lift in GKN profits

Outlook

Chris Barrie

NGINEERING companies used to complain that the City neither understood them nor spoke their language of long-term But yesterday such froideur

was forgotten as analysts up-graded profit forecasts for GKN amid heady talk of the tion and Scottish Mutual. cash to be made from, of all City investment bank things, industrial pallets. Despite the bright talk, GKN shares fell 9p on the an-nouncement of the Interim results, to 10190. But the shares recovered to close just 3p off at 1025p. The dip follows a 3 per cent hike in recent days as other engineering groups, notably TI and May-flower, reported sharp rises in first half results.

GKN's first half results were at the upper end of ex-pectations, with an 11.3 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £181 million on a 3.6 per cent rise in sales of £1.73 billion.

The brightest performance came in aerospace and ar moured vehicles, where prof its increased by 65 per cent to 38 million. Profits in indus trial services rose 42 per cent to £37 million on sales of

£174 million. However, the results from the automotive division suf-fered from lower car and light truck production in the US and flat output in Europe. The profits of £101 million were similar to last year's in

The results are the first since GKN completed its disposal programme of non-core businesses, leaving the group with businesses selected on the basis that they are capable of a 20 per cent return on assets. There is also a cash pile of £483 million to spend. The Westland helicopter business is now benefiting from rising production as the

Stock market value C3.6bn Share price 1028 ▼3p

31,000 Net resources €483m Main activity: One of the country's biggest engineering proups making car and truck parts, helicopters

and armoured vehicles. It also

supplies distribution services. 1/2 YEAR € %: 1.726bn Pre-tax profit 181m Earnings/share 31.7p 128

to the end of the decade, almost tripling to 30 in the years 2000 to 2002 before fall-EH101 comes on stream. It ing back to 20 the year after.
Although the group faces will deliver 11 helicopters a year on average in the run-up (

the need to restructure its armoured vahicle business — in

line with all European players — the aerospace and special vehicles division should see growth as a result. Similarly the automotive business should expand with investments in new territo-ries such as Thailand and the Phillipines, as well as growth

in China. The next six months should see higher demand for car parts in the US and the UK, offset by a downturn in the truck market in Europe. But the focus will be on the Chep industrial pallet division. In Europe, Chep now has 39 million pallets in use, up 5 million in the last year and giving GKN a commanding position in the propriet. ing position in the market. The US pallet pool has grown by a third over the same

period, to 16 million pallets, and there is growth pencilled in for South America and Asia. The company is also planning hefty investment in distributing motor parts. Nick Judge, analyst at Natwest Sagurities, and re-

NatWest Securities, said po-tential competitors would now need massive investment to break in to the market and challenge GKN's position.

News in brief

Bespak ex-directors shared £1m payoff

TWO former executives of Bespak, the leading asthma inhaler manufacturer, shared a pay-off of more than £1 million, according to its 1996 annual report published yesterday. Robert King, the former chief executive who left last September, received £25,000 and Patrick Dunne, the former marketing director who quit in March, was awarded £406,000.

Before exceptionals, the Norfolk based company made profits of 28.7 million during the year — making the pay-offs around 12 per cent of pre-tax profits. — Sarah Whitebloom

CU blames weather

BAD weather in the UK and the US in the first half of the year cost insurer Commercial Union 556 million more than in 1995, the company revealed yesterday. CU, which added that the Manchester and Docklands bombs had cost it 59 million, was reporting a new 12 million. near 13 per cent drop in its interim pre-tax profits at £216 million.

CU emphasised that although general insurance conditions in the UK remained competitive, it was reaping significant rewards from its life operation. — Pauline Springers

Lloyd's of London revamp

LLOYD'S of London yesterday announced it was revamping its disciplinary regime in an effort to speed up its investigatory procedures. The insurance market's chairman, David Rowland, said: "We have been criticised in the past for the slowness of our disciplinary procedures. This new regime will be more comprehensive in its scope and swifter in its process." — Pauline

Mortgage Corporation sold

AMERICAN investment bank Salomon Brothers has sold The Mortgage Corporation, its homeloans division, to First National, Ireland's largest building society, for £53 million.

TMC, whose residential mortgage book is worth £1.2 billion, will be subsumed by Mortgage Trust, the central lending company acquired by First National in 1994 for £22 million.

It is believed TMC finance director Denis McCafferty is leaving as part of the deal that will see First National more than treble its UK mortgage assets to around £1.8 billion. — Richard Miles

Software makes debut

SOFTWARE City, the UK's first chain of software-only super-SOFTWARE City, the UK's first chain of software-only super-stores, was launched amid much brouthalia in London yesterday. Although the first store is not scheduled to open until tomorrow, the company was predicting yesterday that it would have "nearly 40" such outlets by the end of the decade. Led by a former divisional director of Safeway. Alan Taylor, the company set out its ambitious plans and forecast that it would be making sales turnover of £100 million within four years that it would be

the money for the "concept" has come from friends and associates of Mr Taylor and Graham Walker, the chairman. Additional funding has been provided by NatWest. — Sqrah Whitebloom



"Banks in France are cunning vegetable

being terrorised by a giant aubergine. The already has four successful raids behind him and looks set to baffle both police and workers for some time." See Back Page 🍑



PETER Lilley wasn't always as keen as he is today on the wholesale shopping of social security cheats. Shortly after his elplained that friends and neighbours gave him and Mrs Lilley barely a min-ute's peace; all of them, he said, were keen to snitch on somebody on the fiddle.

EANWHILE, it is our painful duty to shop Britain's one nonconformist accountant, a chap so blatant as to flaunt his individuality all over the pages of Price Waterhouse's staff mag. Step forward John Guy, operations director of PW's City Group. He, along with 109 colleagues, recently ish bonding session at Cat's, Cambridge, which "helped develop" "helped develop . . . the identity of the City Group". That identity, from the ad-

Guy, who beams from the 17), is pioneering new front row wearing the sort of white DJ beloved of Brother Yank. Such shamelessness! What a rebel! (Don't ever change).

autumn is Archie Norman, medicine cartel-busting guv'nor of "pocket the dif-ference" Asda. Should Archie. super-successful pursuer of blue-collar purchasing power, saddle up the hyper-precious ultrabourgeois Black Horse, we'll eat a whole tin of me tricated Asda baked beans.

ONSUMERS are well ahead of scientists, doctors. Brussels vets' committees and Brit-hating German farmers when it comes to formulating a well-balanced policy on BSE. "I'm still buying British beef." one shopper declared within earshot of

OT (not) tip to succeed Lloyds Bank chief Brian Pitman in the

woman). All except Mr ministration since June (you're fired).

methods of efficiency in its efforts to cut out the middleman and stash those overheads. Last Sunday's issue carried an article under the by-line of Charles Wyatt, a PR man with the old-established Walter Judd firm and an old pal of Tom Rubython, the paper's editor-propri-etor. SB's hard-pressed reporting squad must be hoping administrating ac-countants John Hall and

Chris Slater don't take this exciting concept to its logi-cal conclusion. SURE sign that the hitherto-modest re-covery is roaring into another unsustainable preelection boom comes from HM Treasury, where morale is, sad to say, recovering after years of down-sizing and other marketdriven horrors. Old hands, however, are not certain the sunnier mood can last;

memo from the gloomier days instructing staff to go to certain, better-lit offices — dubbed "sunburst "helped develop . . . the identity of the City Group".

That identity, from the adjacent pre-dinner photo, in cludes black dinner jackets for all (give or take the odd ministration since June (von're fired).

SUNDAY Business, the dubbed "sunburst rooms" — in order to recover their spirits. Ah yes, grasshopper. Scissors cut paper, seek inner peace

they await a re-issue of a

Ron Cox

Chris Hawkins

FTER 35 years as a trainer, Mick Eas-terby paid his first visit to Brighton yesterday and was so impres that he could not understand why he hadn't been before. Saddling a 10-1 winner in the shape of Sparky in the opening Ringmer Selling Stakes, and finding there was no bid at the subsequent auction, no doubt improved his impression of the place which he described as "beautiful, breezy and a lovely atmosphere."

Looking out from the top of the stands with the sun reflecting off the sea it was hard to argue with him, al-though whether the horses enjoyed it so much is

The ground here is nearly always firm and the sharp downhill bends have claimed more than their share of fallers over the years - some with fatal consequences. Brighton is unique but it is

undeniably run-down and the crowd largely consists of loyal habituees. There is a view among

some professionals led by Peter Cundell, president of the National Trainers Federation, that the place should be shut down or blown up

inmediately.
Cundell is certainly not alone in his thinking but possibly the unease with the track is over-estimated and Fergus Cameron, clerk of the course, said he has had only three complaints from trainers during this three-day meeting when there have been over 130 runners.

Cameron explained the problem with the ground: him was water the last six fur- Mills.

longs but the trouble with the chalk soil is that it drains at a terrific rate — 13 inches in an hour. But it is traditional downland turf with spring in it and it's not half as had as people think."

Roland O'Sullivan, who Roland O'Sullivan, who loves the place, agrees with Cameron and so apparently does the trainer's old course specialist Crystal Heights.

Despite wearing bandages because of dodgy legs, he won for the sixth time here when taking the Tote Sprint Handican which either sneaks vol-

cap which either speaks volumes for his guts or backs up Cameron's assessment of the ground.

Crystal Heights was achieving a hat-trick of handicap wins but scored a shade comfortably and may not have fin-ished yet.

Richard Quinn closed to within 12 of Pat Eddery in the jockeys' championship when pulling off a double on Double Rush and Pike Creek, the latter trotting up by 15 lengths in the Cliftonville Maiden

This was a bad race but Pike Creek, trained by Ian Balding, was having only the second race of her life because of a series of niggling problems and should have plenty of improvement in her. Double Rush won the Brighton Summer Handicap despite having a serious think about wether he wanted to go through with his effort. Quinn made up his mind for him much to the relief of trainer Terry Mills who de-

scribed the gelding as "a little old rogue.
"Time after time he chucks
it in, but from a rating of 68 he's dropped to 40 so on the handicap he had a heliuva chance. But you can't trust him with your money," said



Plain sailing . . . White Plains holds off Tissue Of Lies on his way to victory at Newcastle yesterday PHOTO CARL RUTHERFORD

two-year-old winner of the season when Sheer Face justified favouritism by running on strongly to beat Mystic Quest in the Marina Maiden

Stakes. Anyone following the market could hardly have failed

original favourite Brandon

from to 4-1 to 5-2. The support for Sheer Face

was not a surprise consider-ing he had finished sixth to Putra at Sandown on his debut and Muir confided that he is better than a Brighton horse. "He's a lovely mover

fancy seven or eight of my other dozen two-year-olds will win before the season's out," said Muir.

Towards the end of the afternoon the fields were racing in the middle of the track as the ground had roughened

Willie Muir had his first | Jack took a walk from 74 to | got him settled beautifully. | was nowhere to be seen after wo-year-old winner of the | 11-4 while Sheer Face came in | He'll win a nursery and I | his final runner Harrier's his final runner Harriet's Beau had trailed home in the Gary Bardwell got off to say that the gelding wouldn't let

himself down on ground which was really hard. So there you have it. Opin-

before racing tomorrow. Is expected to be a formality. Gosden, looking forward to his rider's return, said: month wait will be over for Walter Swinburn when he resumes at Windsor on

Monday. Swinburn, who suffered head, shoulder and rib injuries in a life-threatening

France on Sunday.

But yesterday he accepted his first definite domestic booking to partner Talathath at Windsor. This recent Brighton winner is trained by Chris Dwyer, who said: "Walter has rid-den this horse twice before when he was with Michael Stoute and was placed both

"It will be great to have him back to prove he is okay as much to himself as anyone else. I have chatted to him, and his father as-

sures me he is fit."

Dettori will ease his way back with one or possibly two rides for his main em-

ployer John Gosden at his local track. Originally expected to wait until Saturday, he will team up with the unraced two-year-old Conon Falls, a

definite starter in the Car-win Maiden Stakes. Inquisitor's participation depends on the ground. Dettori has surprised veryone with the speed of

his recovery from an injury that was initially expected to keep him out of action until early September. But the Reading surgeon Dr Richard Dodds, who An examination by the

"The original operation went well Dr Dodds did a good job and Frankie has worked very hard to come

needs a few rides under his belt." ready for that meeting he

at Newbury.

Dettori returns on a of 52 winners with little realistic chance of pegging back Pat Eddery or Richard

Eddery looks booked for short-priced double on Welcome Parade (6.20) and Velour (7.50) at Yarmouth tonight, but more attrac-tive betting opportunities crop up elsewhere.

dent (4.45) can repeat a recent course and distance win in the Chaplins Club Handicap. Poorly drawn at Newcastle next time, he looks well treated on his all-the-way defeat of Royal

School House (3.00) at Bath look ahead of the handicaporiginally pinned the left per off their current marks.

Pontefract with guide to the latest form

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| 207 | * PALDOST (35) \1 Nammoud 9-0 Pertain 11 |
| 206 | SAULT WHO IT O Gorman 3-0 |
| 200 | 5 SPANIARD'S MOURIT (12) M Temphilis 9-0 P Rebleses 12 |
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Butting: 6-1 Griling Decow, 7-1 Leps-Leps, Gool Lee Stay, Contract Bridge, 8-1 Cottage Prace, Aggs SciCostop, Felcon's Flame, 10-1 Gold Leene PORM GUIDE - GELING DANCER: Held by checky EIN MCCCATURE Should on Lott 21, namer easter to challenge. 71 Stn Shd Barrook Vand (Resilberg):

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| 1.20 Welcome Parade 1.50 Sylvelia | 2.20 Pharack's Joy |
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| 7.2 | O HORSEY SELLING HANGICAP 3 & 4YO 1= CZ,486 | |
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| 4 | USODAL PRENICE RUDOLF (10) W Terrer 4-6-11 | |
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| | IDE-050 UNICPORTED PRAYER (52) J Arnold 3-8-17 | 3 سند ا |
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| 7 | FRIGHT BALDARE (5) N Callagran 3-8-5 | Put Eddory 6 |
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| - | MAD AROUT THE ORG. (57) & CORRUPT 4-6-5 | D R NeCube 17 |
| 10 | MOSERCH DOCK CHEME (12) JE Horra 4-8-9 | E Doyle 94 |
| 11 | 0-005 DOMUSKY (30) F Bastman 1-1-10 | |
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| 2.3 | SCAMA 4-SENIES FRANCASAL SELLING STAKES 270 St CA.218 |
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| 3 | 9 LAKE SPRING (10) R Hodges 8-11 Decime O'Thee 9 6 Mass DARLING (12) J Akshurst 8-6 E Tablest 9 |
| - 4 | 9 MUJADIL EXPRESS (42) J Licore 8-6 |
| | (SE) PRINCESS FRODINAND (28) M McCornack 8-6 |
| 7 | 3 SELECT (ADY (47) A Jarus 5-4 W J O'Comper 4 4 STATUSTIE (90) B Politing 8-6 T Secreta B |

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| gs B-4 Wilt To Win, 3-7 Statuster, 4-1 Impulsion, 6-1 Select Lady, 10-1 Mits Darling, 12- , 16-7 Princess Fordisand, 20-1 Lake Spring | i Sylvania I ruman |
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18205 MISCH SCHOOL ROUSE (7) (2) MB and T Haughton 9-3

TOP FORM TIPS: Starting Fellow 10, Old Select States 7 1996: Kring 3 8 9 S Sentiors 4-1 (R J R Williams) 2 ran Buttings 7-4 Sparling Fellow, 3-1 Marchell Stat. 9-2 Uplail, 5-1 Old School House. 8-1 Perfect Celt., 14-Margin Memory 8 reasons

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CO SCAMA 1995 TRUCK OF THE YEAR SPHINT TRUPO 20-(ID) GO HEYBR GOLF (13) (D) T Hugsbur 4-10-0 20441 (ELDEE LAD (13) (C) (D) A Jores 6-3-10 90230 TART AND A HALF (19) (D) B Heybar 4-0-7 10230 SPHINDER (19) (CD) P Herro 7-2-7 10100 FRIENDRY MAYE (B) (D) (D) R Paling 8-0-3 27(20 SHADOW JURY (13) (D) (D) B Paling 8-0-3 27(20 SHADOW JURY (13) (D) J Booky 6-8-4 105-(50 WINDERSEN BOY (13) (D) J Booky 6-8-4 TOP FORM TH'S: Friendly Brown B, Yart And A Half 7, Shadow Jury 6. 1996: Spendar 6 9 12 W Remosa 5-1 (P W Harring 7 res

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| | 200230 HOME'S YER PATHES (28) (D) R Hodges 10-8-8 | |
| 7 | 44050 MEMBERS WILLCOME (3) J Bradley 3-8-8 | Done O'Nell (3) 1+ |
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| 3 | 185113 | MR TEXCH (26) (D) B Smarl 4-9-9 Ill Table 2 | | | |
| 4 | | DELIGHT OF DAWN (2) (D) A Stringe 4-9-7 V Stattagy 2 | | | |
| 8 | 610505 | SDOTY TERM (9) (7) J Bradby 9-9-7A Eddary (7) 11 | | | |
| 4 | 350325 | AFRICAN PARD (6) D Haydn Jones 4-8-5 | | | |
| 7 | 8-04000 | ARTFUL DAME (12) (D) M H-ED) 4-1-4 | | | |
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| | 25-0040 | MASSA WILL (45) J New Us 4-8-9 | | | |
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TOP FORM TIPS: Mr Teigh 8, Star Of Gold 7, Great Boar 6

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Reefa's Mill. HAMILTON 6.05 Ramsey Hope; 7.05 Bold Amusement. PONTEFRACT 5.45 Gilling Dancer. lections 3-1 Kilsee Lad, 4-1 Specier, 5-1 Tarl And A Hall, Friendly Brave, 5-1 Seau Venlum, 8-1 Sea bry, 13-1 Qo Hever Golf, 28-1 Westruch Boy

Hamilton evening programme 8.05 Gold Dec

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10041 TROPICAL REACK (8) (70 eq (CO) J Berry 3-4-10
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10040 TRATURAL KRY (5) (G) (Tib eq) (G) B Harph Jones 3
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10050 YOUNG BBH (3) A Wennerfeld 4-6-6
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TOP of The Wind, trained by Jongo O'Neill, is to be aimed at the £40,000 added Newcastle Exhibition Blaydon Races Auction Stakes.

Circles, the first horse they off for 30 years but this is my been on the mark with He's course and I am delighted."

Chris Thornton failed to Owing to technical difficulture. the Exhibition Blaydon Races
Auction Stakes.

Auction Stakes.

Chris Thornton failed to Owing to technical difficulties kind in Europe — on August 26 after her victory at premo, met Chapman, now career. Middleham-based

self in the paddock but she's done nothing wrong during the guardroom path at Catter-better over a mile," said win-better over a mile," said win-

"I first saw him walking up Science Limited Stakes.

ning owner Jim McGrath.
Old army chums Peter Fenasked me to join him in Plains and Tissue of Lie:

TOP FORM THE Gray Kingdom B, Hebsto 7, Cilibox 6 1865: Semestion 4 9 4 D Calificha 4-1 (If D Hearmond) 11 rest Bytting: 4-1 Up in Plymes, 5-1 (Arpor, 6-1 Habers, Calepration Cake, 7-1 Grey Kingdom, 6-1 King Cunix, That/hed, 14-1 Seconds Amey, 16-1 Resead. 7.35 COMPRESENCIABLE LIMITED STAKES AL CLICK 200-511 (CRIG OF SHOW (20) IR Aften 5-9-6 A Culti605653 900 FOR LUCK (3) D Nolan 6-9-0 V Helli40500 SROCH(MEAD LADY (5) (D) P. France 5-9-11 F Fig.
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11230 ARRIDENTROUS (6) (3) E Alstot 4-9-1
12300 ARRIDENTROUS (6) (3) E Alstot 4-9-1
12306 BRANDY (10) (CCD) J Heithrith 5-8-9
40533 TRIBENED (37) P Monteth 5-8-9
2005 EXCLUSION (1493) (CD) J Heithrith 7-8-1
24051 OOLD DESIRE (5) (5th etc) M British 6-9-1
0-100 VECTOR LASSEQ (20) (CC) RAINA 6-8-0
000064 RAPED BOYER (5) (CD) D Noten 8-7-10 H (3) 3 1995: Morney Last 7 0 1 R Hardle 3-1 (Martyn Ma 8.35 CAMEROMARIS HANDICAP III BY 03,534 1 20020 MENTALASANTTRIN (22) (CO) D Haydu Jones 7-9-11
2 40520 MES SPECTACLE (20) P Hasian 4-5-10
3 56350 PROPHITS FROS (286) P Montein 4-5-4
6 505-51a MONACO GODD (22) (07) Mrs M Reveley 4-8-1
5 060315 LAWN ORDER (19) (C) Mrs J Ranssen 3-7-10

1995: Valo Prisco 8 8 5 L Chernock 5-1 (M Thickor) 6 res

Gosforth Park yesterday.

"She is a bit of a lady and moud Fustok when they were has this habit of planting her in their teens.

"Thornton remains on the 499 mark after Call Me was unable to deliver in the Zanussi

The 15-8 favourite had led approaching the final furlong but faded in the closing stages wick and Frank Chapman partnership. White Plains was teeing up a "Tve owned horses on and double for Newmarket trainer White Plains was teeing up a



elbow that took the impact of his fall from Shawanni on June 13, is satisfied he is RANKIE Dettori fit to resume. returns to the saddle at Newmarket tomor-row night, some two months after fracturing his racecourse doctor, who must give final clearance elbow in a parade-ring fall at Newbury, and a six-month wait will be over for

back. "He was initially hoping ary, may yet make his comeback in Ireland or France on Sunday.

me was initially hoping to be back for September 1 and then set his sights on York. but in order to be

> To start with Dettori is limiting his mounts to horses from the Gosden or Godolphin yards. But he could be back in the big race spotlight a week on Saturday when Classic Cliche, whom he rode in work on Tuesday, is in line for the Geoffrey Freer Stakes

At Pontefract, Just Dissi-

Dome and Captain Carat. Both Gool Lee Shay (5.45)

at Pontefract and Old

TS



England looking for the fighting spirit of '92

ficiently an optimist to believe that if duce an all-rounder who can reverse-swing the old ball and hit a century in half an hour. But, after the drubbing at Lord's, even he must already be wondering whether in time he may be haunted by his expressed belief that in his expressed belief that in about 1,000 days' time Eng-land will have been transformed into the mightiest cricket team on this or any

down, only the captain

In the second Test, which begins at Headingley today, England have the opportunity to redress the balance, and maintain a hope of doing what no other side has done in England by coming back from a game down to win a three-match series. It will be gamble but one worth

To win, England have gone against the official grain and asked for a pitch made to their specification: one which responds to the very English virtues of length and line. But if they are to take the game, England's bowlers will need and there is little room for error. This promises to be a

thing extra for this match then he need look no further than the last time the two sides met at Headingley.

In the past 15 years here England have won some, lost some and drawn just the once, but, bless 'em, when they played Pakistan four years ago they won by six wickets inside four days.

It is their only win against Pakistan in 17 matches and demons Wasim, Wagar and Mushtaq, by the same attention to the basics - crease oc than capricious seamer

dedicated first-innings cen-tury was decisive but the balance was tipped by a seam attack — Chris Lewis, Neil Mallender, Derek Pringle and Tim Munton - chosen specif ically for the Headingley job. On most other pitches in the world that attack would

less and stereotypical. At sappy, unreliable pitch, it was lethal. Mallender took eight stan were twice dismissed, for anyone to match this type of attack, the best Pakistan

coach who is all who took five wickets with jury-prone image until he ing for inspiration his leg-breaks. Wasim, by dropped out of the last Test. Tall, needs any contrast, took just one in the But, for Caddick, this really is wickets in the first innings, they cost him 117 runs, not a fair return at all.

England will probably omit men in the 1992 match seven), today's probable six art, whose foot movement and form appear to have returned. will open with Atherton, resuming what is perceived

Atherton partnered Gooch.

the side only after injury to Nick Knight, and if Knight was thought to be the better opener prior to that, little has happened since to alter the idea that if Wagar begins to other left-hander down the order is no bad thing. Nasser

a chance that might not have come round again. His torcontribute both on and off the field, for there is no doubting bowler as anyone in the team He, of all four howiers, could be England's match-winner.

When you see that he's been you begin to wonder. But I'm not blaming his captain or the county, because he can alpart I intend to look after him. In Zimbabwe this winter

Test. He is the most accomturies against India at No. 3 the party and, without his ex-before breaking his hand, perience, fragility begins to creep in. However, the teen-aged Shadab Kabir, who Lewis and Andrew Caddick. at Lord's, will do so again, Lewis had already done much and the likelihood is that Asii to cast off his in- Mujtaba will come in at three



Weather beaten . . . Wasim and Atherton brave wind and rain after inspecting the pitch

PHOTOGRAPH: TOM JENKIN

arringto

nt to gras

Careless Ruseds keaper

message from Course.

Revitalised Wagar serves up meaty food for thought

ENGLAND had attempted a net session in the Yorkshire Indoor school yesterday to counter-act the threat of Wagar Younis, the only deliveries tered would have been a truckload of pork pies. world's most destructive fast bowler has long been less important than catering for the pin-striped

hospitality. Quite who the food was being prepared for was not immediately obvious, be-cause advance ticket sales have been abysmal, only 35,000 over five days. The county might remain offi-Headingley's privations, combined with the absence the England side, have been enough for many potential spectators to take a rain check before setting out.

Championship: Lancashire v Surrey

after 15 fall

Andy Wilson at Southport

Birkdale Cricket Club in 1988.

scores level. He must have

been pleasantly surprised

when he returned yesterday to see a pitch with well-

grassed patches; after helping Surrey recover from 57 for

reduce Lancashire to 89 for

five before a late fightback by

Watkinson and Hegg. Bicknell's elder brother Dar-

along the floor and removed

his off stump. Several deliver

ies also leapt up off a length, as the bruised fingers of Hol-

lioake and Speak will testify, and the pitch was automatically reported to Lord's last

night by the umpires after 15

But Lancashire need not

worry about a repeat of their

the bounce was uneven but not

The pitch has been relaid

since Lancashire's last game

here, against Somerset in

1994, and Mike Watkinson

ning the toss. Austin and Martin in particular did not

squander the chance. Martin

removed Butcher with a

beauty before Bicknell senior

suffered Chapple's shooter,

and Austin bowled a spell of

Julian, who pulled a six on to

the railway track that runs

down one side of the ground

His figures were dented by

oked to his seamers on win-

when in the seventh over a blumb in front.

ARTIN BICKNELL is

Surrey's only survi-vor from their last

Pitch reported

four to 211, he exploited those the slips and then switched patches for four wickets to ends for two more wickets

eight-wicket triumph at winter he performed like a man with the World Cup on tunity for fame and fortune spurned, he is slipping himself again, overcoming his reservations about the back injuries that have disrupted his career. Once again he resembles a bowler with a strike-record virtually unparalleled in Test history.

One respected heard yesterday extolling Wagar's ability to reverse swing an orange, although he failed to clarify whether the bowler had peeled it first. If Wagar follows up today with one of the cater er's pork pies, it is to be hoped that England's bats-men are wearing steel toe-

England's coach David Lloyd made light of the lack of indoor facilities. August, after all." he said. "and the last time I can Wagar's reputation has remember us having an in- treated more disparag- enthusiasm.

41. But Austin returned to bowl Martin Bicknell after

his battling 23 and complete four for 46. Martin had Na-

deem Shahid lbw for a stub-born 32 and added two tail-

Surrey were ebullient in the field: after Martin Bick-

nell's second ball whistled

Australian voice piped up

from the gully, "It's your turn

to face the music". Bicknell

soon had Gallian caught in

with his second and third

balls, Titchard dragging a

yorker on to his stumps and Fairbrother falling lbw after

being struck on the boot

Speak later became Bick-nell's 49th first-class victim of

THE SERSON.
SURRENTY
First leadings
M A Sutcher b Martin
J D Ratcliffe b Austin
A D Brown b Austin
A D Brown b Austin
A D Brown b Austin
G J Kerey c Hogg b Martin
M P Bicknell b Austin
M P Bicknell b Austin

LANCASHUM

end victims at a cost of 59.

sim Akram was more criti-cal, wondering how England would have reacted given a similar occurrence in Pakistan. As England spent much of the World Cup grousing about the state of their outdoor nets in Peshawar, it is a wonder he felt the need to ask Since Lord's, Lloyd has

been besieged by sugges-tions about how to combat Wagar's late inswing, A land's preparations has each individual batsman should shorten his backswing; Graeme Hick, whose backswing was among the omitted.

Michael Atherton, England's captain, considers the challenge part anticipa-tion, part technique. "Half the key is expecting the yorker and accepting that you don't get too many length balls," he said. "I'll make slight techni-

cal adjustments when I face him, but they're only slight and I'm not about to reveal what they are. Generally I'm happy with my game." Another recommendaure than Sir Garfield

out of their crease has been

extraordinary players, journalists and village people in between.
The theory, nevertheles

bowling method, when he achieves reverse swing, in variably results in the ball dipping very late in flight. Forcing him to adjust his length and pitch a yard shorter would allow no opto materialise. If he did no adjust his length, he would Lloyd, in any case, was

stride forward than a spot land's coaching set-up, he emphasised yesterday that any such role was likely to emain imprecise. Lloyd refreshingly

be allowed, within financial limitations, to nominate their own personal

That suggests that Botham's involvement at some stage of the Zimbabwe tour, where he will be working as a commentator for Sky TV, is guaranteed. Assuming, that is, that his recent libel defeat in the High Court, where not every-body shared his opinions men should stand a yard on ball tampering, has not temporarily exhausted his

Soccer

Hooligans losing say police | Elliott set for Blackburn but Klinsmann has no intention of replacing Shearer

David Harbord

OCCER hooliganism is on the wane, according to the police. And, de-spite dire warnings, Euro 96 turned out to be a remarkably trouble-free tournament.

Police figures released yes terday showed a decline for the fourth year running in soccer-related arrests. Whether yob elements have given up their violent ways or are merely plying their trade elsewhere because of improved policing at stadiums is not clear, but the sport can take heart from the market decrease in arrests in and around football grounds. Euro 96, which was pre-ceded by an enormous anti-

hooligan operation by the police, was characterised by some of the most good-nature crowds seen at football matches in England Accord-ing to data published by the Football Unit of the National

Criminal intelligence Service, Incident at a football ground there were only 1,148 arrests | during Euro 96 and the only at the eight grounds where the 31 matches of Euro 96 were played, most for drunkenness, ticket touting and disorderly or threatening behaviour. ment scaremongers, we suc-cessfully managed the large

numbers of people who attended this tournament," said Malcolm George, Man-chester's assistant chief constable and national co-ordinator for policing Euro 96. The police, however, had taken the threat of trouble

seriously and mounted an unprecedented pre-emptive strike against known hooligans, many of whom had been picked out from video film of incidents at earlier matches. Intelligence was also swapped with other police forces and potential troublemakers were weeded out. So successful were the

police in preventing trouble that there was not one major

serious violence came after Germany beat England in a penalty shoot-out in a semi-final. Then England supporters. most of whom had watched the game on television in pubs, ran amok in central London attacking police and motorists. The same night an unfortunate Russian student was mistaken for a

German and stabbed almost

fatally in Sussex The steady drop in arrests at English league games also continued, with 3,437 during the 1995-96 season inside and outside grounds, 10 per cent and the fourth drop in a row. in arrests at cup matches, with only 897 at FA Cup. League Cup and Auto Wind-screen Cup games, a drop of 29 per cent. In all, soccer-related arrests were down 15 per cent while attend were up one per cent.

HE transfer tunnel be-tween Blackburn Rovers and Newcastle United is expected to reopen today with Robble Elliott moving from the North-east to north Lan-cashire. The England Under-21 international seems likely to join Rovers in the week after Alan Shearer headed in

the opposite direction.
With Shearer's 215 million
fee burning a hole in Ray Harford's pocket, the Blackburn ford's pocket, the Elackburn manager has apparently agreed to pay about £3 million for Elliott, who has been on a weekly contract at Newcastle fill the void created in Har-

since the end of last season. Jürgen Klinsmann said yes terday that he did not wish to ford's side by Shearer's departure. Rumours of his imminent arrival for a supposed £30,000 a week had temporar-ily lifted spirits at Ewood Park but Germany's captain asking price of £1.3 million.

ern Munich. Fears that Manchester Unted's Roy Keane would miss the opening of the season be-cause of injury were allayed yesterday. Keane damaged a knee during last weekend's Umbro Tournament but a scan has revealed only minor muscle damage. He will prob-ably play in Sunday's Charity Shield against Newcastle.

said he would stay with Bay-

Shearer, who was expected to make his Newcastle debut then, will play first in tomor-row's friendly at Lincoln. Manchester City have run into problems in their attempt to sign the Australian international Damian Mori because they wish to pay by instalments. A fee of £500,000 for the Adelaide City striker has been agreed. If the matter is resolved quickly, Mori could arrive at Maine Road as Niall Quinn departs; Sunder-land yesterday offered £1 million for Quinn despite the

destined to extend by another season his career at Everton. Despite the arrival of the England Under-21 international Paul Gerrard from Oldham reassured that he will play first-team football. On Tuesday he discussed a free trans-fer to Wolves.

Neville Southall now seems

At the present rate of strik-ing he is more likely to get a game in the Premiership. Brian Marwood, the Professional Footballers' Association commercial executive, has warned again that memto take industrial action" uness Football League chairmen keep to an agreement on Sky television money.

Arsene Wenger says he will decide by the end of the month whether to accept the offer to become the Football Association's technical director. He is currently coaching Nagoya Grampus Eight

Rugby Union

Tuigamala to follow Offiah lead

THE Wigan centre Va'aiga Tuigamala is the latest top rugby league player to set his sights on doubling Tuigamala, 26, is also be lieved to have attracted the up with union. Tuigamala, who deserted union after the All Blacks' tour of Eng-land and Scotland in 1993, is considering several offers to play across the codes.

Wasps' first-team man-ager Malcolm Sinclair said yesterday: "Like all the leading clubs we have spoken to many available players. Tuigamala has been among them, but he has been contacted by other clubs at the top of the Cour-

Tuigamala, 26, is also be-lieved to have attracted the interest of Bath, the Courage league and Pilkington Cup winners last season. He has been a revelation in league, helping Wigan to a clean sweep of domestic trophies last season.

Martin Offiah, who played on the wing for Wigan with the powerful New Zealander, last week completed a move to London Broncos for summer rugby league and Bedford

Sport in brief

Cricket

Australia's former Test offspinner Tim May has an nounced his retirement. The 34-year-old, who took 75 wickets in 24 Tests, is to concen-trate on his business interests.

Chess

The defending champion Matthew Sadler is among five joint leaders after two rounds of the British championship at Nottingham, writes Leonard Barden. The 22-year-old grandmaster from Chatham was lucky when his opponent Chris Duncan, a pawn down but with growing chances, overstepped the time limit while making his final move

Sadler's prospects brightened further when the No. 2 and No. 3 seeds, Mark Hebden and John Emms, were held to

before the clock control.

Golf Laura Davies, who won last weekend's du Maurier Classic

in Canada, has regained her position as the world No. 1 from Sweden's Annika Sorenstam on the Ping Leader

Equestrianism Ireland's Harry Marshall with Velvisto won a 14-horse jumpoff yesterday to take the Kerrygold Welcome Stakes, the opening event of the Dublin Horse Show. Michael Whi-

and finished eighth. Though Nick Skelton, another Atlanta competitor, was impressive in the Speed Class on Quick Star he was not fast enough to catch Michel Robert of France on Alligator Fontaine.

Tennis

Jeremy Bates, the 35-year-old former British No. 1 who announced his retirement dur-ing Wimbledon, takes up a

next week. In Southsea the world junior No. 1, Martin Lee from Sussex, reached his first enior quarter-final when he defeated Mike Wyeth of

took Elton through to the day. He now plays Damian jump-off but had a fence down Roberts of South Africa.

Motor Racing Finland's Mika Salo, 12th in the world drivers' championship, will remain with Tyrrell

next year for a third season. Rowing

Britain's three senior crews went through repechages to reach tomorrow's semi-finals of the world championships at Strathclyde Park. In the coaching position with the single sculls Chris Long fin-Lawn Tennis Association ished second to Estonia's Roman Lutoskin and Susan Appleboom qualified for a chance to take on the 1993 champion. Romania's Constanta Burcic, The new light-weight pairing of Jason Keys taker, a member of Britain's Surrey 6-1, 4-6, 6-1 at the and James Brown read unsuccessful Olympic squad, LTA Summer Satellite yester- semi-finals with ease. and James Brown reached the

Now the fun and Games are over comes the all-American nightmare of sorting the Wheaties from the Atlanta chaff



OR American athletes, the most important competition of the centennial Games took lace far from Atlanta's Olym-

until late on Sunday. It was the race to appear on boxes of Wheaties, America's selftyled "Breakfast of hampions".

The selection of the Wheaties Olympians is scrutinised as an indicator of which athletes will manage to parlay their Atlanta triumphs into what the marketing people call "break-out appeal". Sign-ing a fistful of sponsorship ds while their medals still sparkle is vital for those American Olympians who hope to be remembered beyond Labor Day.

vided attention for the better part of two weeks, the United States' Olympians are, in a way, victims of their own success. For America's 101 Atlanta medallists the challenge is how to stand out from the crowd. Winning is a start but by no means enough; the home medal haul included no fewer than 44 golds. Even multiple winners such as the all-American-looking swim-mer Tom Dolan risk a fate the

marketing men call "Getting lost in the shuffle".

Gary Hall Jr, the telegenic self-styled "swim-bum" who

collected two silvers, would

nal misfortune of losing to a Russian -- twice. The bar for life after Atlanta is set particularly high for ath-letes in usually low-profile sports such as diving or athletics. Michael Johnson may be the man of the moment now but six months ago he was home town of Waco, Texas, So dramatic is the contrast between glory and obscurriy that some American athletes exhibit symptoms of what might be called Post-Olympic

where else but will be forgot-

ten here by the end of next week; he suffered the termi-

After Barcelona, for instance, the diving gold medallist Mark Lenzi expected to be anointed as the new Greg Louganis. He waited for the endorsement offers and televi sion bookings to come flood-ing in. But they never came. Lenzi spiralled into depression, quit his sport and hit the bottle. His comeback to win bronze in Atlanta was the kind of personal drama NBC loves, but it won't save him from the anonymity he experienced

For a day yesterday all America's Olympians were heroes and heroines as more

White House to be congratu-lated by President Clinton. But, after Thanksgiving, will anyone remember Charles ustin, the surprise high jump champion, or Derrick town boy, who won the 400m hurdles? Will anyone recognise the grungy archery whize Justin Huish, or the endearing wrestling champion Kurt Angle? Not likely.

To hang on to a piece of America's notoriously flighty attention after the Olympic flame has been extinguished an athlete must have achieved a particularly stupendous

attributes. Johnson's double and the world-record 200m dash put him safely in the first category; he will get his own Wheaties box and is expected to quadruple his 1995 endorse-

ment income this year. The gymnast Kerri Strug, the "It" girl of the Games, also assured herself of life after Atlanta — and somewhere between \$10 million and \$15 mil-lion over the next three years when she took that vault. She at first declined all offers. announcing that she wanted to compete as a college ama-teur. But within days she had signed with a heavyweight

Strug story, they sigh, is all about courage, selflessness and patriotism. The only drawback is that squeaky voice of hers; but that can be fixed soon enough.

In short, the marketing men are far from ecstatic. The trouble, they complain, is that no unambiguous Bruce Jenner or Mary Lou Retton emerged from Atlanta. "Not one of these Olympic athletes hits the lottery," lamented Bran-don Steiner, a sports marketing expert. Even Johnson's golden shoes, they warn, may not carry him far from

Rugby League

Warrington **put Harris** out to grass

Paul Fitzpatrick

ESTYN HARRIS was left "totally confused" yesterday after Warrington decided to leave him out of their remaining three Super League fixtures. The 20-yearold Wales full-back or standoff, who is on offer at £1.35 million, is considering legal action after this latest twist in a deteriorating

Harris's transfer request was approved two weeks ago and he believed that most of the difficulties had been resolved at a meeting on Tuesday with the club's coaching staff of Alex Murphy and John Dorahy, the first-team captain Paul Cullen and the chief executive John Smith.

'I don't know where I stand now," he said, "I can't believe it. We had clear-the-air talks on Tuesday and as far as I knew they went well. Twelve hours later I got a phone call from the club and the whole thing had changed again. The club statement is vague. Do I go training? If not, am I in breach of contract? I need advice and will be consulting a

solicitor." The statement from Warrington suggests that Harris may have played his last game for the club. They were angered by his withdrawal from the game against Lon-don Broncos last Sunday; he

club feit he could have played. Warrington spoke of the 'need to build a team to go forward without him", adding that the decision to drop him was also based on his request for a transfer and doubts about his fitness.

erybody's best interests, al-though it would be a severe blow for league if Harris were to embrace union full-time Several clubs have already made their interest known, but Saracens are probably the

only club who could get even close to Warrington's asking price. No league club could. Although Harris has made no secret of his union ambitions — not least a Welsh union cap — he says he does not want to play the game full-time. Warrington how-ever insist that none of their a union club want Harris, Warrington will insist on them paying the full price.

Harris is now concerned that enforced idleness could jeopardise his selection for Great Britain's tour to Papua New Guinea, Fiji and New Zea-land at the end of the season. Any player in dispute with his club cannot be considered, al-though Harris, who will miss Warrington's matches against Castleford, Oldham and St Helens, says he is not in dispute. Great Britain are not so well off for stand-offs that a player of Harris's gifts can be overlooked. Normally he would be one of the first

names on the tour list Although Warrington have been preoccupied by the Har-ris saga, they have not been entirely idle elsewhere and have signed Dallas Mead, a 21-year-old prop from Auck-land Warriors. He will join them on a two-year contract

in January.

• First Division Keighley Cougars have signed Oldham's prop Ian Sherratt, transfer-listed at £50,000, on loan.



Monty looks a hot players will be allowed to play union in the off season. If by the law of averages



David Davies at the US PGA Championship

AMERICANS are bats about stats, and among those attached to the US

Brow beaten . . . Ian Woosnam wipes away the sweat in the final practice round for the US PGA PHOTOGRAPH DAVID CANNON

Accountable

es states after

Careless Rusedski gets message from Courier

The adopted Briton took the first set of their second-round match on a tie-break, but his big serve gradually became more erratic and the American lought back to salvage a 6-7, 6-3, 6-4 victory.
"If you don't play intelligent terms and get to the

back of the court against Jim you'll get beat," Rusedski said. "I'm disappointed with the way I returned. I wasn't

Pete Sampras, who missed the Olympics with an Achil- 11th seed Irina Spirlea of les tendon injury, joined Cou-Romania 6-4, 6-2.

REG RUSEDSKI let a notable scalp slip through his fingers yesterday when he lost to the world No. 9 Jim Courier in the ATP Tour Championship in Mason, Ohio, went out 6-1, 6-4 to the lanta Games, the silver medal winner Sergi Bruguera of Spain, went out 6-1, 6-4 to the world No. 68 Patrick Rafter of Australia.

In Montreal, the top seed and defending champion Monica Soles avenged her Wimbledon defeat at the hands of Katarina Studenikova by crushing the Slovakian 6-2, 6-0 in the second round of the Canadian Open. Jennifer Capriati. playing her first match since a firstround defeat in the French Open in May, won a first-round baseline duel with the

PGA Championship which starts today at Valhalla is one saying that, of all the people who have ever played in the event, the man who has made the most money per stroke on aver-age is Colin Montgomerie. Over 14 rounds he averages 70.43 strokes and \$234.38 for each of them, to be top in the category that matters most in this country: money made. He also possesses the best score of anyone over the last 54 holes, at 14 under, which is hardly surprising because he shares with Steve Elk-ington, the man who beat

him in a play-off last year, the best 72-hole total too: 271, or 17 under par. So, statistically, the hot Scot has only to turn up to win. But golf is not like that. Montgomerie will have to play at his best, and probably shoot at least one round well under par, just to get

ners, though it certainly in-cludes Montgomerie, is but joint seventh in the longer than usual and the names of Nick Faldo, Corey Pavin, Ernie Els, Greg Nor-man, Nick Price, Mark O'Meara, Loren Roberts, Steve Stricker, Frank Nobilo and Fred Couples also come readily to mind. Conples has an extra reason for wanting to do well. Yesterday he announced he was a major partner in a group of inves-

tors that includes Clint Eastwood, Pete Sampras and Jack Nicholson who have bought the club-making company Lynx, whose equipment Couples has long used. The overall cost was \$30 million but, if things turn out for Couples as they did for Norman, he will not be displeased. The Australian invested a cou-ple of million dollars in the Cobra company and this year sold out his shares for \$40 million.

The list of possible winners, though it certainly includes Montgomerie, is longer than usual and the Open at Lytham has got pins, and the greens start of the course, treated 51 people for heat-related when they start hiding the longer than usual and the Open at Lytham has got pins, and the greens start of the course, treated 51 people for heat-related difficulties. Open at Lytham has got him interested again and he now says of Augusta: "It would take a far stronger bullet than that to stop

> Tom Watson, recovered from the shoulder injury that caused him to withdraw from the Open, is chasing the one major he has not won. He feels the course may play easily for those in form, principally because the greens are relatively flat and will have to be kept soft so that they do not die in the extreme heat. "Given soft greens and fairly wide fairways, I think you'll see some low scores here," he said. Montgomerie does not en-

tirely agree. He likes the course — "there are 18 very strong holes, very tough" — but thinks the early year sold out his shares for player consensus, that the same level. On Tuesday Steve Elkington's put the first-aid tent, despite in the hole now, as clear as something of a slump since prising how narrow the and free watering holes on ago."

getting firmer, I think it will be sort of 10-ish; 21/2 under every day would be very good scoring."

He can reach three of the par-fives in two but not the controversial 7th, the hole which for the championship measures 605 yards but could be played at 100 yards less if the other half of a split fairway were used. Montgomerie was asked if he could get up using the regular route and just laughed. "This is Colin Montgomerie sitting here," he said, "not John Daly. I hit a good drive and had 320 yards to the green. So,

no, I can't get up."

The one factor that is going to affect everyone is the unspeakable weather. It is forecast to remain in the high 90s, with humidity at

tration started to go and, because of that, the rhythm goes and your swing tends to be quicker. You can end up in a lake or something just because of the pure heat." He tries to counteract it by using one size larger glove "because the hands swell" and by using light-coloured clothing and a wide-brimmed hat, but he recognises that ultimately it is simply a question of

battling on. He was asked how big a thing winning a major would be for him and whether he thought about it when practising. "I don't think about it all the time, no." he said. "But I can see

Christie

slips up again in the Alps

Peter Nichols

WITH the Olympic Games laid to rest only three days beforehand, Linford Christie yesterday found himself in the familiar position of watching from behind as a Canadian won a 100 metres sprint. This time, at least, Christie was on the track and in the race and the Canadian involved was not the Olympic champion Donovan Bailey.

It was Bailey's less illustri ous compatriot Bruny Surin who frustrated the former Olympic champion at the Grand Prix II meeting at Sestriere, Italy. Surin won a wind-affected race in 10.17sec, with the Briton a full metre adrift in 10.29.

Christie, officially in his last season of international racing, might have hoped that a quick return to the track would help expunge the sour memories of Atlanta, Instead a false start, by John Regis, probably brought it all back. When they did get away cleanly Christie was always under pressure. The surge that took him to Olympic and world gold has been absent all summer. The 36-year-old knew in Atlanta that an early which explains the dangerous game he played with the res-

blocks. A safety-first approach in Sestriere only illustrated the point: at 80 metres it was Surin who powered away as Christie's running started to lose shape. Surin had failed even to reach the Olympic individual final, but did collect gold in the sprint relay. Sestriere, 6,726ft up in the

ht

ponse timing on the starting

the course, treated 51 Alps, is always at the mercy people for heat-related of the elements, but for this Montgomerie is better able to cope with it now that he has lost 301b, but he still has problems. "After about 15 holes my concentration started to 20 and performance. He won the 110m hurdles in the slow time of 13.23, yet was quick enough to account for Colin Jackson whose season, in its own way, has been as disappointing as

It was left to Jonathan Ed-wards to register a British victory. But even with the wind behind him and the mountain beneath him the Gateshead triple jumper did not do enough until the last leap, when he recorded a modest 17.67m. Christie, one senses, may

have a great deal of trouble handling the waning of his athletic power. Edwards, in contrast, seems still dazzled by his luminance last

Results

Rugby Union TOUR MATCH (Morcoster SA) Boland

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SAN MARINO WORLD SERVES First
reasons F Sentern (7) bit K Lintucklor)
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1-4 bit Sentern (7)
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ht S Farma (h) 6-3, 6-7, 7-5, V Secondal (mole) bt She-Ting Wanng (Tal) 8-2, 7-5, F Labest (Arg) bit M Paz (Arg) 6-1, 8-1; N Bassidoreo (II) bt G Pizzichini (h) 6-1, 6-4, K Pe (165) bt C Popeneu (Can) 8-3, 6-2, Samp-Mon Park (5 Kor) bt M Wordel-Winneyer (LS) bt K Shudsonlava (Slovah) 6-2, 6-4, She (185) bt K Shudsonlava (Slovah) 6-2, 6-0. M Mashever (Bul) bt L Raymond (LIS) 8-4, 8-3, M Kijizmath [Japan] bt S Schultz-McCarthy (Neth) 6-7, 8-1 6-2; M Please (Fr) bt E Malastrous (Rue) 2-6 6-3, 8-2, R Shabbe (Aus) bt K Habsudovn (Slovah) 6-2, 6-4, LTA SUMMER SATELLITE (Southsea): Second round Bleen T Sphritos (GB) bt M Hill (Aus) 6-3, 3-4, 6-2, G Mendeurson (GB) bt A Fosiler (GB) 6-4, 7-5, A Munt (KZ) bt T Hulderbrand (Swo) 4-6, 6-1, 6-2, N West (GB) bt S Pender (GB) 6-4, 7-6, D Mendeurson (SA) bt N Loss (GB) 6-4, 7-6, D Mendeurson (SA) bt N Loss (GB) 6-4, 7-6, D Mendeurson (SA) bt N Loss (GB) 6-4, 7-6, D Mendeurson (SA) bt N Loss (GB) 6-4, 7-6, D Mendeurson (SA) bt N Loss (GB) 6-4, 7-6, D Mendeurson (SA) bt N Loss (GB) 6-4, 7-6, D Mendeurson (SA) bt N Loss (GB) 6-4, 7-6, D Mendeurson (SA) bt N Loss (GB) 6-1, 6-2, D Mendeurson (GB) bt N F (GB) 6-3, 6-2, A James (GB) bt F (GB) 6-4, 5-4, 6-1, M Martines (GB) 6-1, 6-2, 6-1, M Martines (GB) 6-1, 6-2, 5 Saddahl (GB) bt J Cawoon (GB) 6-1, 6-2, 5 Saddahl (GB) bt D Abott (Tut) 6-1, 0-3

INTERNATIONAL MERTINO (Scapioro)
Ment 100mt 1 B Surn (Carl 10 17sec. 2
L Chrishe (GB) 10.29 400ms 1 D Kamoga
(US) 45.70 3,000ms 1, L Kajkoper (Kerl
MRILS 14 00m burdiers 1 A Johnson (US)
13.25 2, C Jackson (GB) 13.39 400m bur-Athletics

diese 1, S Maiete (Zam) 49,03. Pole vendir 1, S Hustman (LS) 5,70m. Leag jumps 1, J Ed-greeme (US) 8,46. Thole jumps 1, J Ed-wards (GS) 17,57. Shoth 1, R Barnes (US) 21,65. Womeste 100sss 1, N Vormova (Rus) 11,45ec. 400 Baseball

NATIONAL LEAGUE Chicago 3, New York D: San Francisco 2, Cincinnati 3; Pissburgh 1, Los Angeles 3; Atlanta 10, Piniadelpha 4; SI Louis 0, San Diego 1, Houston 5, Montreel 7; Colorado 11, Florida 0, AMERICAM LEAGUE Boston 3, Toronto 2, Detroit 2, Texas 4; New York 8, Chicago 2; Kursan City 3, Oshlend 2, Milwaskes 3, Bollfinore 13; California 1, Mismascota 4; Spattle 3, Cleveland 4.

230-8 Drawn. Casactarfields Gloucs 492-3
dec. Derbys 433-9 (I Blockwell 1230-8)
Womble 75). Drawn. Necticepham MSr
Lens 330-5 dec and 256-5 (S Ahmed 82ho, V Clarke 77). Note 481 (C Tolley 117, G
Archer 141, G Welton 71: Mason 5-651.
Drawn. Seaton Carwer Durham 406 (G
Longley 129, D Blenkron 92). Lancs 178
and 270-6 P McKsown 581. Drawn. Stadleys Warks 524-5 dec (M Sheikh 102. M
Powell 210, M Wegh 1159 and 182-4 dec.
Somewsel 360-3 dec (H Morgan 110nd. S
Ecclestons 83) and 167 (A Hayhtarth 51;
Altree 8-29). Warls win by 229 runs. Tha
Ovala Northanks 384-5 dec (A Swamn 174.
A Roberts 67) and 161-4, Surrey 162 (A
Tustor 52) and 382 (I Ward 56, A Smith 81. J
North 70. B Holitoster 159. Northants won
by 50, wits. Warvester. Worcs 380-9 dec
(M Church 102) and 105-5 dec. Yorks
154-3 dec and 220 (C Chapman 88). Worcs
spop by 91 runs.
SEMOR COUNTRES C'SHIP: Bowey Traowy Devon 270-4 (N Foland 127) and
280-4 (Foland 74no, N Geywood 56, 6
Townsend 60). With 239-5 (D Winter 62)
and 164 (Poebuck 9-44). Devon (22) bit
Wits (5) by 127 runs. St Austhali Cornwall
224-1 (G Thomas 148no, S Williams 87, A
Seymour 74no). Shrops 111-5 (Secree
4-23). Cornwall (Sobs) draw with Shrops
(5) Wardsown Pies Cambs 227 (N Gadsby
26; Sher 5-52) and 261-2 (S Kelled 88ho,
Gadsby 90). Beds 209 (W Larkins 109) and
134. Cambs (22) bit Beds (5) by 145 runs.

SQ12351

E-QUES-UT-IATRISHT
DUBLISH HORSE SHOW: Karrygold Welcome Status: 1, Velvisto (H Marshall, Ire)
clear 36.64ser; 2, Argot (E Gundel, Ger) cir
28.30; 3, liter (G Dominic, H) cir 40.12. QBE
8. Elton (M Writaken) ettis, 37.34 secs.
Kerrygold Speed Statuse: 1, Alligator
Fontaine (M Robert, Fr) 62.16; 2, Quick:
Star (N Sketton, GB) 62.94; 3, Diamond
Explosion (F Conners, Ire) 83.43, Other
QBE 7, Rendi (J Whitaker) Effits 69.19.

Evening Racing 5.50 (1an 40: 1, STATE APPROVAL, C Carver (12-1); 2, Redgemedgine (7-1); 3, Supermilect (4-1 al Fab), 4-1 al Fav Augus-tan, 10 ran, 3, shd. (4, Jarvis) Tobe: E17.40; E2.80, E2.10, E2.10. Dual F. 265.50. Trick C287.40 — part won. CSF: 534.72. Trickast E384.58.

Chess

Ch

MOTTINGHAM

8.08 (8f 1 Sydays 1, SUMMERSWILLE WOOD, C Scally (4-1): 2, Champagae Onleo (14-1): 3, Yalondine Fairy (3-1): 8-4 Fav Fearfess Cavaller: 9 ran. Hd. 18. (9 Mooney) Tole: 08.30; 51.30, 08.20, 51.50. Dual F. 684 20, Trio: 556.70, CSF: 558.44.

8.25 (8f 13-ydays 1, SOUPPERFICIAL, W J O'Connor (5-1 Co Fav); 2, Superbit (7-1): 2, OseBiglats Gift (8-1): 6-1 Co Fav Featherstone Lane. 12 ran. 1, 1, 1/3 Glover) Tole: 05.50; 62.50, C2.50, C1.80, Dual F. 10.80, Trio: 134.50, CSF: 135.31, Tricast S162.43, Mf: Superbills.

NOTTINGHAM

Soccer

Cricket CORNEILL INSURANCE SECOND TEST

REPTAINIC ASSURANCE COUNTY
CHARPIONENS (11.0, four days): Summuser Glamorgen v Leicesternishre. Saudiemphore. Hampshire v Glaucesterhire.
Neuthamptore. Northants v Kent. Treat
Bridgen Notinghamshire v Middlesay.
Teamstone Sornersel v Essex. Hones Susteamstone Sornersel v Essex. Hones Susteamstone.

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European Cup: Qualifying round First leg: Rangers 3, Alania Vladikavkaz 1

McCoist revives Rangers

Patrick Glenn

ANGERS' third goal a close-range header by Gordan Petric from McInnes's cross — climaxed an extraordinary comeback by the Russian Scottish champions against Russians who had seemed totally in control at half-time. When Yanovsky, scorer of

Alania's opener, hit a penalty wide a minute later, Rangers' prospects of reaching the Champions' League improved beyond measure.

Walter Smith's pre-match observation that Rangers, even at home, would have to defend well against clever, quick and perceptive opponents had begun to look like clairvoyance long before the Russians took the lead after 28 minutes. Compact and knowledgeable at the back, authoritative and composed in midfield and incisive in the forward areas, the Alania players frequently looked capable of taking advantage of their edge in match

Indeed, they would have led earlier but for Coram's fine save, leaping left to prevent Agaev's chip from squeezing in at the post after the latter had combined well with Kasimov and wrong-footed the Ibrox defence with a twinkletoed turn.

difference between the sides was the versatility of the Rus- yards. It was his first Eurosians. They could not be compartmentalised, each one capable of filling in capably anywhere, Agaev, nominated a defender, typified this with the move that had tested

The opening goal, therefore.

was no surprise, though there seemed little threat as Pagaev was fed wide on the left. But suddenly he burst past Cle-land and pulled the ball back 20 yards towards Yanovsky. The big midflelder, who had virtually orchestrated the forward and sent a low left-foot shot into the far corner of Goram's net from just outside

the penalty box. Rangers, however, de great credit for the spirit which they came back in the second half. They disturbed the rhythm of their visitors not only with strength and commitment but with some fancy football, too.

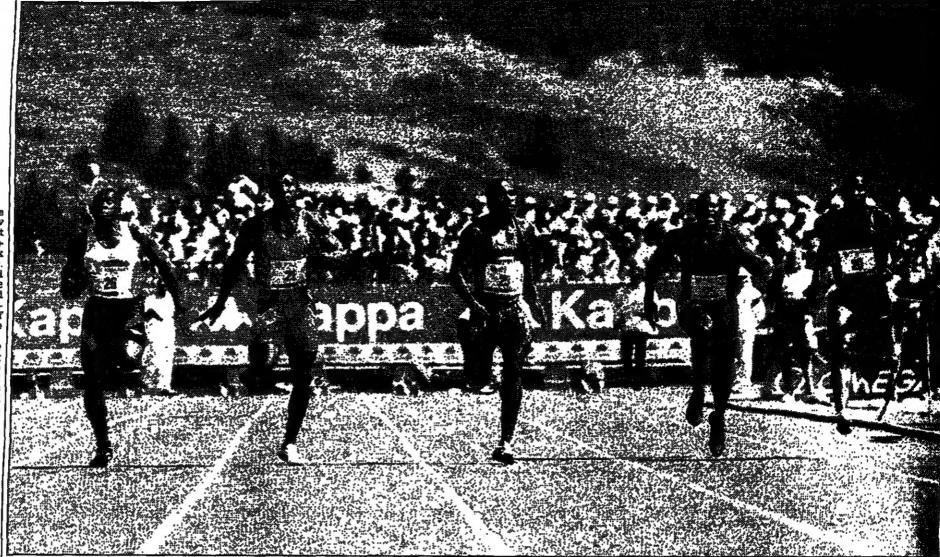
the 51st minute. McColst and Laudrup had already combined to bring a good save from Kramarenko when McCall's cross from the left was met by Albertz, whose header was knocked off the line by Kornienko. But McInnes, who had replaced Ferguson in the 20th minute. drove the loose ball in past a clutter of bodies.

McCoist, who had been given a severe time by the home fans for two misplaced first-half headers, gave Rangers the lead nine minutes later. Durle, fighting hard to retain possession on the right, delivered & kneebrox defence with a twinkle-oed turn.

Perhaps the most telling right-footed it away to the right of Kramarenko from 12

> At the height of this black period for the Russians, Pagaeve, booked earlier for a foul on Laudrup, was dis-missed for a second cautionable offence, a trip on Durie.

CHRISTIE BEATEN AGAIN



Hammers under fire over share policy

ST Ham United, who revel in their image as the archetypal family football club, are facing a revolt among ordinary shareholders nine days before the start of

will recommend that shares are traded only in blocks of 100 or above. The proposal is designed to prevent an in-crease in the shareholding base, which has spiralled over recent years when ordi-

ing this month at which it reported to be changing controls 90 per cent of the hands at £200 this week, a fan determined to obtain a stake under the new rules would have to pay £20,000 for 100 shares. "It's an absolute disgrace," said Shane Barber, a lifelong fan who owns one share and runs the fanzine On A Mission.

"The worst thing is that they call themselves a family club and then do this, which is designed to exclude the small shareholder. We're just a bloody inconvenience. a bloody inconvenience. "We only found out about

this last week when we received a letter. I'm writing to every shareholder to vote against this. I've spoken to lots of other shareholders and

they are equally outraged." He said there was a general tendency within the game for the average supporter to be marginalised. Under the scheme anyone wishing to un-load less than 100 shares would have to sell them en bloc to a single new owner.

You might call Jack Nicholson

self-satisfied

in a charming

deeply un-PC

"Men's glands

programme

them to get

up after sex

and go right

Derek Malcolm

G2 page 7

on to the

next one."

words about

kind of way, quite capable

of uttering

gender —

The row has been sparked nary supporters have bought the proposal is expected to be the proposal is expected to be small holdings in the club.

The proposal is expected to be receive the report and accounts. Printing and post-small holdings in the club.

With West Ham shares August 22 because the board out if we are shares.

more than £3 million on play-ers this summer, claim that the proposal will save on administrative costs. At least 146 supporters own a single share entitling them to a copy of the annual report. How-ever, Barber dismisses this argument. "We're talking peanuts. They say it is to save money, but what is the cost? 146 second-class stamps." He also criticised the timing

of the meeting, at 2pm. "Nor-mally they hold the agm in the evening but this is the middle of the working day. It will keep people away. In the past you used to get about 12 people turning up for the agm: now you have about 75 people with a really keen interest asking pertinent questions." Neither West Ham's chair-

man Terence Brown nor the chief executive Peter Storrie was available to comment yesterday.

boon or burden to the club'

Mark Milner

'VE owned it for more than a quarter of a cen-tury. I have no idea what it is worth, it hasn't paid a dividend in donkey's years, and I am not sure if I could find it without turning the house upside-down. Yet I would not part with it for love or money. One share in Burnley Football Club.

Burnley has about 1,000 shareholders. Many, like me, have just a handful of shares or less. It is hard to work out whether for the

work out whether, for the club, we are a boon or a burden. Certainly we are a lights. Or maybe it's just that, despite the changed furtures, I will be at Luton on August 17 full of hope. annual meeting and to

holder lives in Spain; would he attend the agm?

I haven't been to it that often myself. Not since the one in Burnley Central Library in the mid 1970s, amid sufficient reports of

shareholder dissent to attract the interest of the television cameras. Club shares don't change hands that often; I inherited mine. We may be in the Second Division and we may not have a stock mar ket quotation but I still regard the share as an heirloom. My elder nephew has ruled himself out of the in-

Everton. Maybe it is just sentiment; a reminder of when we used to get to Wembley or when Zurich Grasshoppers played under the Turf Moor floodlights. Or maybe it's just that desuits the character it is character.

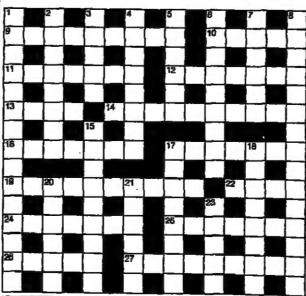
heritance by supporting

eksentrics ready has row you stukeaids behind him and looks set to baffle or some time. When one bank manager asked. "Are you ser! ous?", the gon-weighing ing-plant shouled No. I'm an auberging and let laose several rounds into the ceiling. Police in Milan have. liscovered that ke the filth off the si is harder than might think. One a tall, high-beek blande argused mi but caused a real star

PLAYING BY THEIR OWN RULES

Guardian Crossword No 20,726

Set by Rufus



Across

9 Turned out awkward

without an instructor (9) 10 Public minister about to return? Quite the opposite (5) 11 Fundamental shifting in

cargo (7) 12 One who helps another to a seat (7)

13 His victima lose heart (4) 14 Worker in biblical community went to America (5,5)

16 Tentative suggestions put out by some animals? (7) 17 Tom's nag is mixed in with others (7) 19 Make too many accusations of commercial malpractice

22 One gentile about to become a Hindu ascetic (4) 24 All waiting — to be signed?

25 Goes ahead when the dogs are ready for a walk (5,2)

26 A more sensible arrangement of wires (5) 27 Down the line from

Down

1 Take firm action to speed things up (3,4,4,4) 2 First phase of the Stone Age

3 United to make reparation 4 Form of drawing (3,5)

5 Coming Into season (6) Holiday with one's bride, darling Cynthial (9) 7 He gets the game off to a flying start (5)

8 Figure In metrin disputes (7,8) 15 Bent on making money from an upturn in aliks? (9)

WORD SOLUTION 20,725

victory fo

7 Very good article for cake 18 Boy admits disappears of pocket dictionary (8)

20 Pass directions around the circuit (6)

21 Call for superior judgment

Female subject of a popular song-cycle (5)

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